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THE NONCONFORMIST.

"The dissidence of dissent and the protestantism of the protestant religion."

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Eccliaſtical Affairs.

NOT TOO LATE.

If any of our readers still remain in doubt respecting the expediency of sending delegates to the Conference summoned for the 20th instant—if any have hastily adopted the conclusion, that the step determined upon is too late to be effective—a useless expenditure of time, money, and exertion—we entreat them to weigh well the few considerations we are about to place before them, and afterwards, to refer their doubts for resolution to their love of truth, their sense of justice, their patriotism, and their religion.

The proposed Conference may influence the fate of the Maynooth Endowment bill *even now*. The third reading of the bill is fixed for the 19th—the debate upon it will probably be a protracted one—the division, in all likelihood, will not take place until towards the close of the week—many votes have already been plucked away, by the importunity of constituencies, from the ministerial majority—many more will be affected by continued pressure from without—and, should the bill eventually go up to the House of Lords, its treatment by that body will mainly depend upon the ultimate effect of public opinion upon the votes recorded on the third reading in the House of Commons. The legislature absolutely reels under the blows already dealt out to it. The prevailing conviction amongst members of parliament is, that, whatever may become of this particular measure, state endowments of religion have received a mortal wound. The Tories are divided—the Whigs are sensible that, as a party, they are overwhelmed—radicalism, such as found its way into the House, is despondent, utterly undone. The Prime Minister, with all his bravado, falters, and is obviously anxious. Now, then, is the very moment for a last, a more resolute, and a still more unmistakable expression of dissenting will. There is confusion in the ranks of our foes, and opportunity addresses us, as did Wellington his guards, "Up, boys, and at 'em." Aye! up, every friend of free and unfettered Christianity—up, in all the glorious might and energy which become the sacred principles committed to your keeping—up, and be doing, and let the world know, from your decision of purpose, your calmness and self-denial, that the hour for the liberation of truth from state control is nigh at hand, if not at the very doors!

It may be that the Conference will fail in securing the immediate defeat of the Maynooth bill. It is well to take that failure for granted. But the pertinacity of the Premier and his supporters, far from deterring nonconformists from mustering as strongly as possible at the approaching Convention, furnishes a powerful argument for them to outdo all their former exertions. If the measure must needs be entered upon the statute book of these realms, let it at all events be accompanied by a protest, distinct enough to be intelligible to all future statesmen, and loud enough to be heard throughout the lengths and breadths of human civilisation. We have been misunderstood hitherto—we have been systematically misrepresented. The hour is at length come for putting an end to all mistake as to our sentiments, our principles,

and our purposes. We have to say, and to say with effect, as we can do if the will be not wanting, "Enough! We have borne long, much, patiently, even to our own reproach, the affronts which British statesmen have again and again put upon our ecclesiastical views, and upon Christianity itself. We will have no more of it. The worm that is trodden upon will turn upon its aggressor. Servility itself may, at length, be provoked into a struggle for independence. We have done, henceforth, with all your political parties. By God's help, we mean to push our principles into active, untiring, and parliamentary collision with all state endowments of religion. You could not let things rest where they were—but must needs throw down the gauntlet in the shape of this Maynooth bill. We deliberately pick it up, moved thereto, not by theological bitterness, but by rooted hostility to all and every alliance between the church and the state. Whether you will or no, you shall hear our voice of stern and solemn defiance—and we will see to it that never again shall you trample upon our convictions in mere heedlessness and ignorance of what it is you do."

It is not, however, with the legislature only that we have to set ourselves right at the projected Conference. We are bound, by high considerations, to let the country know our precise position. Differing, as we do most essentially, from our Roman Catholic fellow-countrymen, in all the essential tenets of our theological faith, it is of the first importance that we should stand forth in the eyes of all men, clear from the charge of intolerance and persecution. It behoves us to place on record, as well in justice to ourselves as to them, that our primary, if not our sole, objection to a measure which has an apparently kindly aspect towards them, is dictated by views altogether distinct from those doctrinal differences which sever us from them. We are bound to inform state-churchmen, whether Episcopalian or Presbyterian, that the same principles which prompt our opposition to the endowment of Maynooth college, apply with equal force to all state-establishments. Above all, we owe it to our Irish fellow-subjects, to wipe away, as far as may be, those studied misrepresentations in which parliamentary placemen and treacherous demagogues have set forth our motives. For Ireland's sake, with whom we deeply sympathise, whose wrongs have been suffered to accumulate for centuries, and who, if she were but true to herself, would see the hour of her deliverance approaching, we devoutly trust that the Conference will be an imposing one—and that from it there may go forth an address which, whilst it will place our opposition to the Maynooth bill upon the right ground, will also hold out to that oppressed and insulted people the hand of cordial brotherhood. The dissenters of this empire will neglect a solemn duty, unless, with a voice full-toned enough to be heard across St George's channel, and kind enough to soothe to rest all unworthy suspicions, they do not repudiate, in the hearing of the nine millions of Irish Roman Catholics, the Protestant establishment which still burdens that isle. In our future controversy with state churches, much will depend upon whether Ireland is ranged as our foe or our friend—and we can hardly venture to anticipate her co-operation, unless we convince her that we denounce with equal honesty the state church which oppresses her, as we do the paltry endowment which is designed to bribe her into quiet servility.

The most important object, however, to be gained by the Conference, will have respect to the future electoral policy of dissenters. There remains not a shadow of a doubt, that instant organisation, in many of our boroughs, would secure the return of efficient volunteers at the next general election, and, were that organisation extended as far as it might and ought to be, would strike a salutary terror into the half-hearted liberalism of the day. Let nonconformists but abide steadfastly by their principles, and they will be astonished at the readiness with which candidates will profess them; and although, in most instances, such professions are not to be trusted, a few earnest-hearted men in the House of Commons might make them turn to some profitable account. It is within our reach, at all events, to change the whole tone of the legislature on the question of state churches. But this can only be done by united effort. Hence, in our view, the necessity for a numerous Convention—

hence our deep anxiety that our friends may be every one of them at his post. Let them rest assured that their exertions and self-sacrifice will not be thrown away. They greatly misappreciate the solemn exigencies of the times, if they yield to the notion that their efforts will be "too late."

BRITISH ANTI-STATE-CHURCH ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday last, a public meeting was held in Finsbury chapel, in commemoration of the establishment of the British Anti-state-church Association, and as a *finale* to the meetings of the Council. The weather was very unfavourable, and the chapel was not, consequently, as well filled as it would otherwise have been; but there was, notwithstanding, a large and respectable attendance. The tone and spirit of the meeting was equal to any which we have attended. Among the gentlemen present, were Dr Price (in the chair), Drs Cox, Campbell, and Massie; Messrs J. R. Campbell (Edinburgh), Bigwood (Exeter), Evans (Scarborough), Mursell (Leicester), Brown (Northampton), Morris (Burton-on-Trent), Smedmore (Leicester), Robinson (Kettering), Holland (St Ives), Dobney (Maidstone), D. Rhys Stephen (Newport, Monmouthshire), Forster (Highgate), D. Rees (Isleham), Richards (Alnwick), Forster (Stony Stratford), Young (Thrapstone), Bonner (Bilston), Overbury, W. Miall, Aveling (Kingsland), J. H. Hinton, J. W. Richardson, Eckett, Jefferson, Stovel, J. J. Brown, Katterns (Hackney), Trestrail, ministers of the gospel; and Messrs H. Miall, J. Childs, H. F. Coleman (Leicester), Norris (Bristol), R. Bealey, R. Fletcher, E. Swaine, Dr Lee (Aylesbury), Fielding (Castle Donnington), Henry Vincent, and many others. Dr Price was unanimously called to the chair.

The CHAIRMAN congratulated the Society on the position they now occupied. At first starting, they were regarded with indifference by some, and distrust by others. Many dissenters feared they would injure, instead of promote, the cause of true religion by the course they had marked out—others feared they would evince a want of sagacity and temper. Twelve months' experience had allayed, if not altogether dispelled, those fears [cheers]. They had conciliated the regard of many opponents, if not obtained their adhesion; and he hoped that, by pursuing the same path of mingled firmness and moderation, they would gradually gather around it the friends of civil and religious freedom throughout the country. He thought it a providential circumstance that this Society had been twelve months in operation, indoctrinating the minds of dissenters with their great distinctive principle—opposition to all state endowments—before the proposal of the Maynooth bill. To its influence might, in a great measure, be traced the improved tone adopted by Protestant dissenters in opposing this unprincipled measure [hear, hear]. They had been called political dissenters, but their accusers were treading in their steps. Agitation was now the order of the day in the religious world, and he hoped that the present crisis would be a lesson to those who held aloof from them, and convince them of the duty and necessity of proclaiming their principles to the world [cheers].

Dr Cox then came forward, amidst loud cheers, to move the first resolution:—

"That on this, the first anniversary of the British Anti-state-church Association, this meeting, composed of its members and friends, cannot but express their entire accordance with the principle on which that Society is based; viz., 'That in matters of religion man is responsible to God alone; that all legislation by secular governments in affairs of religion is an encroachment upon the rights of man, and an invasion of the prerogatives of God; and that the application by law of the resources of the state to the maintenance of any form or forms of religious worship and instruction, is contrary to reason, hostile to human liberty, and directly opposed to the word of God.' That the truth and soundness of this principle have been illustrated and confirmed by many occurrences during the past year, and that the necessity for enforcing it upon the public and the legislature is constantly becoming more evident and imperative."

He proceeded to comment, with great clearness and effect, on the several clauses of the resolution, proving the unsoundness, injustice, and impolicy of state interference with religion in all its bearings. The present time was, he thought, the very crisis of the Association, and of the great principle on which it was based. They were entering upon a mighty conflict, and must stand prepared for it. There was arrayed against them a despotic minister, a corrupt parliament, an oppressive hierarchy, and mitred intolerance [cheers]. On the one side was a wrong-headed legislature, on the other discontented millions. But with sound principles, and sound men to support them, they were strong enough to fight [cheers]. Like the stripling David, they had but a sling and a stone, but they were able to overcome the giant—to over-

throw all church establishments. Elections were coming, aye! and re-elections; and it would then be seen whether the friends of the voluntary principle would again allow themselves to be misrepresented. They had a great instrument to advance their cause—the power of prayer, and with such a help, “greater is He that is for us, than all that be against us.” [loud cheers.]

Mr HOLLOND, Independent minister, of St Ives, seconded the resolution. He examined, at some length, the voluntary and compulsory principles, illustrating the subject with many apt and quaint illustrations of the absurdity of attempting to legislate on questions connected with man's thoughts and religious opinions.

Mr D. R. STEPHEN, Baptist minister, of Newport, moved the second resolution:—

“That this meeting, approving of the principles and objects of this Association, and deeply convinced of the importance of its labours, pledge themselves to render it their active support; and that, bearing in mind the difficulties with which it has had to contend, they congratulate its Executive upon the strong hold which, by their steadiness, firmness, moderation, and assiduity, it has already gained upon the public confidence; and regard this measure of success, not only as an earnest of future success, but also as an encouragement to renewed and persevering exertions.”

He proceeded to refer to the conduct of the Association during its twelve months' existence, and challenged any one to prove, that in any of its actions it had given fair offence to any Christian conscience. They had come to the close of the first chapter in the history of aggressive nonconformity. There might be forty or fifty more chapters, but the closing one would seal the fate of all endowments. He thought this Association was obtaining increased influence throughout the country, and now occupied a position of fearful responsibility; and he hoped and believed they would not be found wanting. In proof of the progress of the voluntary principle, he referred to the speech of Mr Guthrie, of the Free church, at Exeter hall, who compared the religious world to a vessel tossed about in the middle of the Atlantic, between America and France. “If the choice rests between the voluntary system in America, and the endowment of all sects in France, I,” said Mr Guthrie, “go to America” [loud cheers].

Mr CAMPBELL, Independent minister, of Edinburgh, in seconding the resolution, adverted to the progress the Association was making in the public regard. This was a great encouragement to them to go on with increased energy. The present agitation had taught dissenters a lesson which he hoped they would not forget. They must have their principles represented in parliament. Let the voluntary principle be a mere theory no longer. They must commence a practical agitation on its behalf. The time was favourable; they possessed power and influence with constituencies; and he was sure the dissenters of Scotland would co-operate with them in the great undertaking [cheers].

Mr CHARLES STOVEL, Baptist minister, was received with great cheering. He said that in all the proceedings of the Anti-state-church Association it had been their anxious concern to offend neither God nor man. Mr Stovel, in a long and eloquent speech, which called forth repeated bursts of cheering, proceeded to examine the bearings of the Maynooth Endowment bill, expressing in the strongest manner his sense of the unparalleled wrongs which Ireland was made to endure, and his sympathy with all its efforts to obtain redress, and on these accounts condemning the insulting bribe offered to Maynooth, as a substitute for real justice to that oppressed people. How could they expect Catholic Ireland to regard Protestantism with favour, when the Protestant party had been their bitterest tyrants? He concluded by moving the following resolution:—

“That, while many persons are now protesting for the first time against the parliamentary grant to Maynooth college, on account of its proposed increase and perpetuation, this meeting rejoice to know that the payment received the unqualified condemnation of the Anti-state-church Association, so soon as that Society had been formed, and at a time when its intended increase and perpetuation had not been announced, and was not even contemplated. That this meeting, moreover, rejoice to know that in the same resolution in which the Anti-state-church Conference condemned the Maynooth grant, it also, and on precisely the same grounds, condemned both the Irish and the English *regium donum*—an example which they strongly recommend to the adoption of all the opponents of the Maynooth grant, as the only consistent course to be pursued. That, entertaining these views, this meeting are much gratified to learn that a Conference of dissenting deputies on the Maynooth College bill, has been called for the 20th inst, and cherish an earnest hope that its deliberations will be attended with great success in the promotion of sound principles, as well as in frustrating the progress of that unjust measure.”

Mr J. P. MURSELL, Baptist minister, of Leicester, seconded the resolution. He showed how great an obstacle this *regium donum* was in all their endeavours to convince political men of the justice of their opposition to the Maynooth bill. How any one could take that bribe, and yet oppose the bill, he could not understand. He hoped they would make an effort to do away with it, both in England and Ireland. Let us not have the accursed thing amongst us [loud cheers]. Dr Cox, much to his honour, had refused any longer to distribute the *regium donum*, and he hoped the other distributors would follow his example [cheers]. After an explanation of the circumstances attending the secession of certain deputies from the late Anti-Maynooth Conference, Mr Mursell proceeded to mention the steps which were in progress for summoning a Convention, in which dissenters might assert the grounds upon which they opposed the bill without opposition, and trusted there would be a large attendance. They did not

wish to put themselves into a position of hostility to the preceding Conference, but to act apart, and without the slightest reference to the past.

Mr W. FORSTER, of Highgate, Independent minister, moved the fourth and last resolution, which was to the following effect:—

“That, seeing how ill the principles of civil and religious liberty are understood, even by those members of parliament who profess to advocate them, and with what indifference they give their support to measures utterly repudiated by their constituents, this meeting record their deliberate conviction that it has now become the imperative duty of all persons possessing the elective franchise to exercise it with a special reference to the sacred interests of religious equality, as exhibited in the liberation of religion not less from the incumbrance of state patronage than from the restrictions of state control.”

He dwelt at some length upon the present deplorable state of feeling in the House of Commons, on questions connected with the voluntary principle, and strongly urged the necessity of instant and decided action on the part of nonconformists, to remedy the evil. There was not a single member of parliament pledged to support the voluntary principle, and one only, out of the whole House, had voted in its favour. In fact, dissenters had no representatives. Why was this? Not because they were poor; for they can raise their £200,000 a year for the support of missionary projects—nor because they were not numerous enough, or were wanting in political influence—nor was it because they were not political; but because they had not set a proper value on their principles [cheers]. He hoped they would now set themselves to educate the House of Commons. Let them send men to that House not afraid to stand up before the aristocracy—men of principle, not of expediency; and though they were but few, they would soon wield a moral power and influence, which would greatly assist in bringing about the final extinction of all state endowments [cheers].

Mr E. MIALL, in rising to second the resolution, was received with several rounds of applause. The subject of the resolution he held in his hand reminded him of an anecdote he had heard in his younger days. A schoolboy once bought a magpie, with the object of teaching it to speak. His teaching was, however, in vain; and, in despair, he went for information to the party from whom he had bought it. “He does not talk,” was the reply; “but he is a profound thinker” [laughter]. Dissenters were represented by a set of parliamentary magpies [laughter]. Whenever the principles of nonconformity were involved in any great public question, these gentlemen were unable to speak a word; and if they do touch upon these topics, it is only to show their utter ignorance. All their notions of religion were mixed up with money [hear, hear]. But for that consideration, they would never meddle with it. There was among them the “most crass” ignorance, as Lord Brougham would say, of all great and generous principles. Look at the argument used by Lord Howick in opposition to the voluntary principle. He said that, however much it might do for the rich, it was not adequate to supply the poor with religious instruction; and yet, while he was speaking, and in the very country to which he was referring, there existed a most signal instance of the falsity of his reasoning. In Ireland, the church of the rich and few was supported by the state; the church of the poor and many by the voluntary principle [hear]. But this man was allowed to make this statement in the House of Commons without contradiction. There was no representative of dissenters to come forward and tell the noble lord that all the facts of history contradicted his assertion [hear, hear]. It was time to put an end to this state of things [cheers]. It ought to have been done long since, and would have been, but for the unfaithfulness of dissenters to their principles [cheers]. But after repentance came amendment. They could do better if they would [hear, hear]. If they were not able to send a majority, or even a large minority, to parliament, it was in their power to return some dozen or so of tried faithful men to expound their principles [cheers]. Why should they not do so? They were neither afraid of liberals nor conservatives, for it was almost impossible to distinguish between them; Lord J. Russell and Sir R. Peel were equally bad, or rather, he thought, Lord J. Russell the worst of the two [cheers, and cries of “No”]. He professed to be the friend of religious liberty, and had yet used his utmost efforts in opposition to dissenters [loud cheers]. Would they, as many of them as were citizens of London, refuse their votes to him at the next general election? [cries of “Yes,” and loud cheers]. Would they put up a better in his stead? [“Yes”]—and stand by him to the last? [“Yes”]. He trusted that decision would be adopted by the whole body of dissenters throughout the country. A mighty conflict had now commenced between the voluntary and compulsory principle. He hoped nonconformists would now be faithful to their principles—that they would immediately organise themselves, and look out for themselves men of tried integrity and of moderate means—God-fearing men, who would go to the House of Commons, and tell that assembly that all their pretence about religion was a delusion and a farce [loud cheers].

In accordance with a general call from the audience, Mr VINCENT then came forward, and briefly but most effectively addressed the assembly on the topics touched upon by the preceding speaker. His speech called forth frequent bursts of enthusiasm.

The CHAIRMAN then put the resolution, which was carried with acclamation; and shortly afterwards the meeting separated.

THE ANTI-STATE-CHURCH ASSOCIATION.—Mr W. Forster, Independent minister of Highgate, lectured for the above Association on the 29th and 30th of

April, and on the 1st and 2nd of May, at Tonbridge, Brenchley, Lammerhurst, and Stablehurst, to large and attentive audiences. The explanations given by Mr Forster of the constitution and objects of the Association, were received with marked satisfaction, and his appeals to support it, with the heartiest response. Such is evidently the state of feeling in Kent, that, by a little effort, the bulk of the nonconformists of that county might be speedily enrolled on the books of the Anti-state-church Association. Baptists and Independents appeared fully convinced that the time has come when the most strenuous exertions ought to be made to obtain the ultimate and complete abolition of the state-church system. If Kent may be taken as a sample of English counties, there can be no doubt that the greater portion of dissenters might, in a year or two, be brought into the anti-state-church movement, and induced to contribute handsomely every year to the expense of carrying out its great designs. In the parishes above-named, registrars have been appointed for the enrolment of members.

THE GRANT TO MAYNOOTH.

CENTRAL ANTI-MAYNOOTH COMMITTEE.—A meeting of the General Committee was held on Wednesday, at which several members of the Anti-Maynooth Conference attended. It was presided over by Sir Culling Eardley Smith. On the motion of Mr Charles Prest, it was resolved that the petition to the Lords, agreed to at Exeter hall, should be signed by the Chairman on behalf of the meeting, and transmitted to the Marquis of Breadalbane for presentation, with a request to the Bishop of Cashel, and Lords Roden, Kenyon, and Farnham, to support it; and that the petition to the House of Commons should be entrusted to Mr Colquhoun or Mr Plumptre. A motion was proposed and carried for the establishment of permanent offices for the business of the Association. A sub-committee was then appointed to prepare an address to the people of Ireland. On the motion of Mr Bickersteth, a sub-committee was appointed to make inquiries, and open a correspondence in the three kingdoms, the continent, and America, on the subject of a Protestant union. Mr Seeley moved the appointment of a sub-committee to consider of a plan for bringing the Protestant constituencies of all denominations, in the various boroughs in the kingdom, into united action at the next general election, so as to return none but anti-Maynooth candidates. Mr T. GREGG supported this resolution. The resolutions were all adopted unanimously, after a short discussion upon each. Towards the close of the proceedings a letter was read from Mr T. Duncombe, M.P., addressed to a dissenting clergyman of the metropolis, declaring his intention of moving an amendment in the House of Commons, to the effect that the operation of the Maynooth bill be limited to a period of three years, within which time a general election would take place; but the Committee came to no decision on the subject.

THE MAYNOOTH QUESTION.—Notwithstanding the large majorities within the walls of parliament, by the mechanical force of which the bill for the endowment of the popish seminary at Maynooth has already been hurried on to nearly the final stage, it is certain, from statistical facts, duly authenticated by official authority, that the people of England entertain the most decided objection to the course pursued by the conservative prime minister and his supporters. We have before us a list of the petitions hitherto presented to the House of Commons for and against the proposed grant; and it hence appears that there are no less than 7,629 petitions praying for its rejection, already weighing down the table of that assembly, signed by 982,862 persons of various religious persuasions throughout the length and breadth of the land. To oppose this formidable array of hostility there are, on the other hand—absolutely and positively—46 (forty-six!) parchments in favour of the bill now about to be pressed for a third reading, signed by no less than 15,483 persons. The public may be curious to ascertain who these petitioners are. There are 53 merchants and traders of the town and vicinity of Banbridge; 9 members of the presbyterian congregation of Moneyrea, in the county of Down; 184 members of the first Presbyterian (Unitarian) congregation of Dromore; 680 magistrates, manufacturers, &c., of Manchester; 836 merchants and bankers of Liverpool; 92 merchants and traders of Bangor, near Belfast; 3 ministers and members of a dissenting congregation worshipping at Strand street, Dublin; 16 members of the Presbyterian congregation of Dunmurry, Antrim county; 84 inhabitants of Portobello, near Edinburgh; and 59 Protestant inhabitants of Banbury, Neithrop, and the hamlets in Oxfordshire. These are in addition to 13,428 brought forward from the last report. The sense of the nation is very fully and satisfactorily conveyed by the 982,862 petitioners against the grant, it being known that the whole of the electors of Great Britain do not exceed (but are somewhat under) that number.—*Times*.

THE APPROACHING CONFERENCE.—A Conference of nonconformists is summoned for the 20th instant. This is a well-timed arrangement; for however desirable it may be for the two parties who oppose the bill occasionally to confer together, the reasons of objection urged by the dissenters, in which the main strength of the resistance to the measure consists, must be urged and maintained by themselves alone. The feelings of earnest hostility to the policy of the government increases everywhere in depth and intensity. It has taken, also, a practical direction. From the Hebrides to Cornwall, the constituencies are employed in arranging their plans for the ensuing election. And if we do not mistake the significant symptoms of resolute indignation now pervading vast numbers of electors, nor over-estimate the

permanency of the causes of dislike which have alienated them from their representatives, the ensuing election will witness a great change in the men returned to the people's House of Commons. The dissenters of Norwich and Norfolk will not forget nor abandon their duty on this occasion. They have felt deeply the importance of the questions at stake—they have experienced painfully the disadvantage of their principles being unrepresented, or rather misrepresented, by their present members—they will not, therefore, any longer be prevented, by the attachments of party or political indifference, from seeking to obtain a more adequate expression of their opinions in parliament.—*Norfolk News.*

GREAT MEETING AT BIRMINGHAM.—From six to eight thousand of the people of Birmingham (says the *Pilot*), in town's meeting assembled, under the presidency of the Mayor, have "emphatically protested against the proposed endowment of the college of Maynooth, because all civil establishments of religion are based upon a violation of the rights of conscience—are uniformly detrimental to political as well as religious freedom—and therefore cannot tend to promote the public good." This is a "great fact," and, let him cavil at it who will, it is portentous of the downfall of an institution which, to say the least, has lost the confidence of the nation. The meeting was held in the Town hall, on Tuesday evening last. The mayor, Thomas Phillips, Esq., presided, but did not express his sentiments. Amongst the speakers, in the course of the evening, were Messrs T. Morgan, T. H. Morgan, Peter Sibree, and George Dawson, ministers of the gospel; Mr J. H. Wilson, Richard Barlow, Esq., A. Albright, Esq., Mr Arthur O'Neill, George Edmonds, Esq., clerk of the peace, Messrs W. Morgan, J. Pumphrey, B. Hill, J. Mason, Mr Councillor Baldwin, and Mr Councillor Rodway. The meeting was, in every respect, an effective one. One of the resolutions "repudiated and denounced the disgraceful coalition between the two great political factions of the day, in order to carry the proposed bill for the endowment of Maynooth through parliament, in opposition to the declared wishes of the people, and heartily acknowledged the able and independent conduct of Mr G. F. Muntz, Mr W. S. Crawford, Mr John Bright, Mr Thomas S. Duncombe, and such other members of the House of Commons as honestly exposed the hollow pretences of state expediency which have led to the proposed measure." Petitions to parliament, and an excellent address to the people of Ireland, were adopted.

MEETING AT LEICESTER.—A highly respectable meeting of protestant dissenters, resisting the government measure on the ground of their opposition to all state endowments of religion, was held on Monday evening last, in the Bond street chapel, Leicester—Henry Freeman Coleman, Esq., in the chair. We regret that we are unable to give a report of the addresses delivered on that occasion, but the general character of the meeting will be sufficiently indicated by the following resolutions, which were unanimously carried. It was moved by Mr J. Davis, minister, of Arnsby, and seconded by Cyrus R. Edmonds, Esq.—

"That this meeting regards all interference of the state with religion, whether in patronising one particular sect, or in the payment of every sect alike, as utterly beyond the province of the civil power, inimical to the spirit of Christianity, and injurious to its interests, as well as being an act of flagrant injustice to society at large."

Mr G. Legge, A.M., Independent minister, moved, and Mr Collier seconded—

"That this meeting sincerely sympathises with Ireland, in all the wrongs and woes by which it has been so long oppressed, and earnestly desires that, in all civil rights and privileges, it may be raised to a condition of equality with ourselves; but it by no means thinks the endowment of its colleges or its clergy, by the state, a justifiable means of attempting the redress of these wrongs; or that such redress ought to be conferred at the expense of violating the conscience of any portion of the community."

It was moved by Mr J. P. Mursell, Baptist minister, and seconded by Mr Bedford, Independent minister—

"That this meeting regrets the mistaken conduct of those dissenters who have united with the Anti-Maynooth Committee in their opposition to the government measure, and trusts that they will feel bound, by their fidelity to the fundamental principles of nonconformity, to give their most cordial support to the proposed Conference." It was moved by Mr Green, and seconded by Mr J. Bloodworth—

"That the following address from this meeting, founded on the principles laid down in the foregoing resolutions, be presented to her Majesty, at the earliest opportunity."

We have not room for the address to the Queen, in this week's number. After a vote of thanks to the Chairman, the meeting separated.

BRISTOL.—A public meeting, convened by the Bristol branch of the British Anti-state-church Association, was held on Friday week, in the public room, Broadmead—Robert Norris, Esq., in the chair—for the purpose of agreeing to a petition to parliament against the grant to Maynooth, and generally against the application of secular funds to religious purposes. There was a very numerous and respectable attendance. Mr J. J. Waite moved, and Mr T. E. Thoresby seconded, the first resolution. Mr H. J. Mills moved an amendment, expressing the approval by the meeting of the wise, just, and conciliatory measure introduced by her Majesty's ministers for extending education in Ireland, by increasing and making permanent the grant to Maynooth college. Mr Patrick Croly seconded it; and a long discussion ensued, in which Mr Clifton and Mr Charles Stovel, of London, opposed, and Mr T. M. McDonnell supported, the amendment. On its being put from the chair, it was negatived by

a very large majority, and the original resolution adopted. A resolution against the grant, and a petition, were afterwards adopted, and the meeting closed.

BANBURY.—On the 28th of April, a spirited and numerous meeting was held in the British school room, to oppose the Maynooth Endowment bill—Mr John Fisher in the chair. There had been an attempt to unite the nonconformists and churchmen, which failed. This resulted in favour of the meeting. The feeling excited in the town was strong, and the room, though large, was filled. The resolutions were all founded on the voluntary principle. The first—declaring that any appropriation of the national resources, by legislation, to the support of any religion, is opposed to scripture, and an invasion of the rights of conscience—was moved by Mr Coats, Wesleyan minister; seconded by Mr Lewis, Independent minister; and supported by Mr Wiltshire, Primitive Methodist. The second resolution and petition—avowing the voluntary principle, condemning all legal establishments of religion, and praying against the endowment of Maynooth, and for the legislature to recall property at present held by any form of religion, through favour of the state—was moved by R. H. Rolls, Esq., and seconded by Mr T. Furneaux Jordan, Baptist minister. The third resolution—appointing a delegate to the London Conference—was moved by Mr W. Stephenson, and seconded by Mr Carey, Wesleyan minister. On Monday evening, the 5th instant, the Anti-Maynooth committee and friends assembled in the large school room of the Wesleyan chapel, to hear the report of R. H. Rolls, Esq., on his return from the London Conference. Notwithstanding the meeting was called in this comparatively private form, it was respectable and numerous. Mr Coats occupied the chair. The delegate gave a vivid description of the proceedings of the Conference; after which the audience was addressed by Messrs Lewis, Carey, Jordan, Wiltshire, and — Burgess, Esq.

EXETER.—A town's meeting was held a few days since, in this city, with the view of uniting all parties in their opposition to the Maynooth Endowment bill. The meeting was concocted by the church party, on the "no popery" ground, and the various dissenting ministers were invited to attend. They, however, declined the invitation, for the reasons mentioned in the subjoined letter, which the Chairman refused to read to the meeting:—

To the Chairman of the Meeting in reference to the proposed grant to Maynooth college.

MY DEAR SIR—At a meeting of dissenting ministers, of the Independent and Baptist denominations, held yesterday, it was resolved, "That it may be most expedient for them to absent themselves from the meeting; and that, to prevent misconception of their motives, the chairman of their meeting be instructed to explain to the gentleman who may occupy the chair at the meeting to-night, the reasons which led to the decision."

I beg, therefore, to lay before you the following statement:—

The bill which your committee has issued, inviting, as it does, the attendance of all who oppose the proposed grant to Maynooth college, would seem to require the presence of dissenters, and to warrant them in stating the grounds on which they rest their opposition to the measure. Those who have originated the meeting, will probably feel bound—as they most certainly have the right—to adopt the same course. Now, since the grounds on which churchmen rest their opposition are, or may be, so different from those which dissenters may feel themselves constrained to urge, the ministers assembled anticipate that possibly sentiments might be introduced into the resolutions, or the petition, proposed for the adoption of the meeting, with which their avowed principles would not allow them to concur, and which might, *perhaps*, impose upon them the very disagreeable necessity of moving an amendment either upon one or both. They cannot but feel that such a measure would do good to no party and no cause. Rather, then, than place themselves in a position in which fidelity to their own principles might possibly force them to adopt measures tending to disturb the harmony of the meeting, and so to defeat the end at which both parties aim, they deem it most expedient to absent themselves from the meeting altogether; or, if any should go to it, to be present as mere spectators.

In consequence of the general invitation given by the handbills, the dissenting ministers have felt it due to themselves to address this letter to the chairman, that they may thus prevent any possible misconception of the motives which have led them to their decision. They yield to none in decided, determined, opposition to the proposed grant, and the ulterior measures to which, there can be no doubt, the present one is intended to be the precursor. They have opposed it already; they pledge themselves to continued opposition; and the chairman, and the meeting of this evening, may rest assured that, among the various denominations which exist in England, or the world, none will be found to be more inveterately adverse to the proposed grant than the evangelical Protestant dissenters of this country, though they cannot, and, as they think, ought not to oppose it in any way which might even appear to compromise their principles.* I am, dear sir, respectfully yours,

GEORGE PAYNE.

Signed by him, as chairman of the committee, on behalf of Rev. Dr Dobbin, Rev. W. Welsh, Rev. N. Hellings, Rev. J. Bigwood.

* One of our principles is that no man should take the money of another man for the support of his religion. The principle of the churchman and the Wesleyan is, that he may take the money of the Catholic, but that the Catholic must not take his money; and he cannot see the inconsistency of this. I fear nothing could enlighten such darkness.

PLYMOUTH.—The Wesleyans have forwarded requisitions, numerous signed, to the two members for the borough, calling on them to resign their seats in parliament, in consequence of their support of the Maynooth bill.

MERTHYR TYDVIL, GLAMORGANSHIRE.—The various dissenting ministers (Wesleyan, Baptist, and Independent), met on Friday last, and resolved to petition, in their united capacity, against the go-

vernment measure for endowing Maynooth college, on the principle of opposition to all ecclesiastical grants. The meeting also requested Mr E. Griffith, English Independent minister, to write to Sir J. J. Guest, the member for the borough, and state the opinions of the dissenters of Merthyr, as well as express their deep regret that his name should have appeared in the division list in favour of the government measure.

ANTI-MAYNOOTH PETITION.—The petition agreed upon at the meeting at the Baptist chapel, on Wednesday week, has received upwards of 16,000 signatures. It is on the broad ground of principle, and as such we are glad that it has succeeded so well. The petition is to remain for signature a few days longer, when it will be despatched to S. Crawford, Esq., for presentation.—*Leeds Times.*

THE DISSENTERS OF PLYMOUTH.—A long letter has been addressed by the United Committee of Evangelical Dissenters in Plymouth, to Thomas Gill, Esq., and Lord Viscount Ebrington, the representatives of the borough, expressing their sentiments on the Maynooth question, and on state churches and state endowments. The following is a passage from the letter:—

We avow to your lordship the principles of a despised voluntarism—of that voluntarism which undeniably achieved the earliest and most splendid triumphs of the gospel, and on which, under God, we confidently rely as adequate, and as destined, to subserve its universal success. We maintain that a constrained support of religion is injurious to the interests of truth, an invasion of the rights of conscience, and inconsistent with the meekness, the liberty, and the spirituality of the religion of Christ. We ask no legislative aid for our own ecclesiastical or collegiate institutions—we could not conscientiously accept it: we disapprove the *regium donum* as issued from the national resources, and we cordially participate in the disclaimers of it which the leading bodies of dissenters have repeatedly uttered.

BRIGHTON.—The evangelical church party of this town held a meeting a few days ago to oppose the Maynooth bill on the "no popery" ground. Some of the voluntaries of the town took the opportunity of publishing an address to the chairman of the meeting, exposing the inconsistency of men who at one time strain every nerve to oppress dissenters, and at another raise a great outcry when their own establishment seems in danger.

THE BIBLE CHRISTIANS have petitioned against the Maynooth grant, throughout their connexion, on the ground of opposition to all state endowments. At a meeting of the committee appointed by the annual conference of this body, to protect their rights, held at Shebbear, Devon, the following, among other resolutions on the subject of Maynooth, was adopted:—

"That this meeting deems all state endowments of Christianity to be unjust in reference to all those who dissent from the denomination which may be endowed; and, as being highly injurious to the spiritual interests of such endowed denomination also, as it holds out inducements to persons to enter the Christian ministry for the sake of the emoluments guaranteed by the state to such as enter it, who were never called to that work by the Great Head of the church, nor possessed of the necessary spiritual qualifications. And, therefore, it views with considerable alarm the attempt made by her Majesty's government to endow the Catholic college of Maynooth, as an incipient measure for the endowment of Roman Catholicism in Ireland."

MR MACAULAY AND HIS CONSTITUENCY.—Some days ago, as our readers are aware, an address was forwarded to each of our city representatives, from about a thousand electors, stating their strong disapprobation of the Maynooth bill, and their determination not to vote for any one, at a subsequent election, by whom such a measure was not strenuously opposed. The following answer, addressed to Sir James Forrest, was received yesterday from Mr Macaulay:—

"Albany, London, April 30, 1845.

"MY DEAR SIR—I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, and the accompanying document. I have no apologies or retractions to make. I have done what I believed and believe to be right. I have opposed myself manfully to a great popular delusion. I shall continue to do so. I knew from the first what the penalty was, and I shall cheerfully pay it. I have the honour to be, my dear sir, your faithful servant,

(Signed) "T. B. MACAULAY."

—*Edinburgh Paper.*

MR CORDEN'S OPINIONS ON THE IRISH CHURCH AND STATE ENDOWMENTS.—A correspondent sends us the following extracts from a work of Mr Corden's, entitled "England, Ireland, and America," published by W. Tait, Edinburgh, in 1836, with the hope that it will open the eyes of his "voluntary" friends as to his opinions on that subject:—

"Let them search the annals of religious persecution (and it is the most humiliating chapter in the history of poor human nature), and we will challenge the advocates of coercive dealings in matters of conscience to produce an instance where violence, bribery, or secular power in any form, has ever aided the cause of religion. To the honour of the immaterial portion of our being, although the body may be made to yield to these influences, the soul, disdaining all mortal fetters, owns no allegiance but to itself and its Maker.

"So long, then, as the church of England possesses the whole of the religious revenue of Ireland, there cannot be—nay, judging the case as our own, there ought not to be—peace or prosperity for its people; and, what is of still more vital importance, there can be, judging by the same rule, no chance of the dissemination of religious truth in that country.

"Let us not be met by those unthinking persons who view tithes as religion, with the cry about the destruction of the Protestant church. We are of that church; and we reckon it amongst the happiest circumstances of our destiny that Providence has placed us in a Protestant land. In our opinion—and we have endeavoured to prove it from the homely but incontrovertible arguments of facts—no greater temporal misfortune can attach to a

people of the present age than to profess the Roman Catholic religion."—p. 17.

"There cannot be prosperity for Ireland until the law, by equalising the temporalities of Catholics and Protestants, shall have removed the foundation of this hideous contention."

"To this consummation we must ultimately be driven; for nothing short of this will content the people of Ireland, because less would be short of the full measure of justice. We advocate no spoliation; let the vested rights of every individual be respected—especially let no part of the tithes fall to the merciless grasp of the landlords of Ireland, who, with many exceptions, may be regarded as the least deserving body of its people."—p. 23.

"But let the British parliament assert the right to the absolute disposal of the Irish church revenues, excepting in cases of private property; and let an equal government grant be applied to the religious instruction of both faiths, according to the numbers of each, as is the rule in France and Belgium at the present day."

"Such a regulation, by preventing Englishmen from holding benefices in Ireland (there would then be no longer the temptation of rich livings and sinecures), would lead to a beneficial influence of the Protestant ministers in that country; for what could so much tend to destroy all hope of their proselyting the poor Catholics—what, in fact, could be so much calculated to make those ministers 'despised and rejected,' as to send amongst them, as is now the case, and ever has been, strangers, who, whatever may be their worth (and we believe the church of England clergy, as a class, to be, at this moment, about the best body of men in Ireland), are ignorant of the character and habits, nay, even of the very language of the people? What chance have these in competition with the Roman Catholic priesthood, who, drawn from the middle or lower ranks of their countrymen, after an appropriate education in Maynooth college (where are always four or five hundred of such students), are sent to, perhaps, their native village, to resume the personal and familiar acquaintance of its inhabitants?"—p. 24.

DEFAULTERS TO CHURCH RATES.—On Thursday, Mr Prentice, one of the churchwardens for the parish of St Lawrence, applied for warrants of distress against Mr Choat, for 16s., and against Mr James Conder, for £1 10s. 8d., due for church rates to the parish of St Lawrence.—*Suffolk Chronicle*.

SEIZURE FOR CHURCH RATES.—John Edger, Esq., of Pickstone house, East Grinstead, has been added to the number of witnesses for the voluntary principle. A policeman and broker have distrained, and taken away from his demesne a yearling heifer, of £4 value, for a church rate of 7s. 6d. The sum of £1 10s. 3d. was returned to Mr Edger, as a balance, after the payment of the rate and expenses.

REFUSAL OF A CHURCH RATE.—On Thursday a meeting was held in St Peter's church, Nottingham, for the purpose of obtaining a rate for purchasing a new clock. A rate was moved for and seconded, and an amendment made, that the meeting be adjourned to that day six months. On a show of hands the numbers were declared to be equal, when the chairman, Thomas Wakefield, Esq., gave a casting vote against the rate. It was then agreed to raise the funds by voluntary subscription.

MR CRAWFORD'S MOTION ON STATE ENDOWMENTS.—The following are the heads of a bill which Mr Crawford read to the House of Commons on Monday week to carry into practical effect the resolution he then proposed:—

Heads of a bill for the establishment of the voluntary principle, as stated in Mr S. Crawford's speech on moving his resolution on Monday, the 5th of May, 1845:—

"Clause 1.—To appoint commissioners for the purpose hereinafter stated.

"2.—To make provision that, after a day named (suppose 1st of January 1849), on the decease of any archbishop, bishop, dignitary, or minister of the established church of England or Ireland, or any minister of the established church of Scotland, who has been in the receipt of any payment derived from any lands, tithes, teinds, or compositions for the same, or from any other source of revenue not arising from private endowment or voluntary contribution, such revenues shall from thenceforward be received by the commissioners appointed by this Act, and by them paid into the consolidated fund, or otherwise applied to national purposes, as parliament shall hereafter direct.

"3.—To confirm to the recipients of *regium donum*, and to all other ecclesiastical persons now in the receipt of any income derived from state grants—the amount of such grants during their lives—but providing, that on the decease of every minister receiving the same, which shall take place after the day before named, such grants should cease and determine.

"4.—That after the said day, all cesses or rates for ecclesiastical purposes, levied in the form of parochial cess or otherwise, shall be discontinued, and that it shall be no longer legal to levy any such rates or cesses for the aforesaid purposes."

THE FREE CHURCH AND THE VOLUNTARY PRINCIPLE.—The position of the Free church in regard to the voluntary question may now be considered as settled—and settled satisfactorily, in so far as that body is concerned—by their giving in their adhesion to the principle carried this week in an overture passed by the Edinburgh Synod, on the motion of Dr Candlish, that the Free church should petition for the abolishing of all existing endowments: from the conviction "that the establishment principle can never be consistently worked out by the statesmen of this world." The precise words of the overture explained by Dr Candlish, as reported in the *Witness*, were, that he thought the proposed endowment of Maynooth College "afforded a favourable opportunity for the assembly giving some decided deliverance as to the position which the church now occupied in reference to the general question of establishments, on which there seemed to be some misunderstanding in some quarters, and great anxiety in others. In reference to this question, it was their conviction, that if the establishment principle was to be worked out by the statesmen of this world, and to be worked out in such a way as to make it favourable for error as well as truth, they ought to request them—they

ought to ask them as a favour—rather than do this and thus bring the establishment principle into disrepute, that they would have the kindness to leave it alone altogether. They came to this decision, not because they relinquished the principle of national establishments, but because they placed such a high and sacred value on the principle, that they would rather contemplate the abandoning of all the existing establishments by the State, than that the endowment of Popery should take place."—*Glasgow Post*.

Correspondence.

THE DEPUTIES OF THE THREE DENOMINATIONS.

To the Editor of the *Nonconformist*.

SIR—I perceive in your paper occasional reports of the "deputies of the three denominations of Protestant dissenters, in and within twelve miles of London, appointed to protect their civil rights." I have been a member of an Independent chapel in the neighbourhood of London several years, and have attended most of the church meetings, but have never heard of any deputies being proposed or appointed to represent this congregation, although I am now told there are two. Will you be kind enough to inform me in what manner the delegates are elected, and what are the credentials required to allow them to act as such? as in times like the present it appears to me essential that such delegates should be the real representatives of the congregations, and not the nominees of a select few.

I am, sir, yours,

May 7th, 1845.

A CONSTANT READER.

W. SHARMAN CRAWFORD, ESQ., M.P.

To the Editor of the *Nonconformist*.

DEAR SIR—When our congregations assemble to appoint their delegates to the approaching Conference, I trust they will embrace the opportunity of expressing their approbation of Mr Sharmar Crawford's conduct, in dividing the House of Commons upon the voluntary principle. The three members who voted with him should share in this acknowledgment.

The friends of complete suffrage should also take an opportunity of expressing their satisfaction with the amendment which Mr Crawford is about to propose upon Lord John Russell's resolutions. Individual and family petitions could be got up without any trouble, and, if left open at the ends and endorsed, would go to members of parliament postage free.

The complete suffrage tea party at the Crown and Anchor on the 21st instant, at which Mr Crawford is to preside, will afford an excellent opportunity for the friends of freedom to manifest their respect for the Chairman, and their approbation of his very consistent public conduct.

I trust the suburbs of London will do their part in this demonstration. We shall have an omnibus load from this village, and I hope other places, distant from the metropolis, will follow the example.

I am, sir, yours sincerely,

J. F. BONTEMS.

Vincent Cottage, Ealing, 9th May, 1845.

PARLIAMENTARY REPRESENTATION OF DISSENTERS.

To the Editor of the *Nonconformist*.

SIR—in respect to the Maynooth Endowment bill, the oft-repeated question among its opponents now is—What is still further to be done? It especially behoves all liberal dissenters carefully to consider this question, to determine what further course to pursue, and at once earnestly and energetically to enter upon it. We may safely predict that the bill will pass the Commons. "The twelve men who were ready to die on the floor of the House rather than the bill should pass," have not yet been found. Will such patriots be discovered in the other House to arrest the progress of the measure? It is vain to expect it. The whigs are favourable—the tory party is neutralised; a few of the old "no popery" peers may perchance stand firm, and the state-dependent bishops may show a little sham fight, and vote against it, knowing full well that the majority will not be affected by such votes. No, no; the crafty Premier thoroughly understands the tools he has to work with. The House of Lords may be flooded with petitions, but it will be of no avail. It will be only so much time and money thrown away; and, I take it, both these commodities are just now too precious to be frittered away in useless efforts. Go, then, at once to the Throne for a dissolution—if, indeed, it be possible to reach it through the Home office, with the "Honourable" Sir James Graham as the presiding genius. All who know anything of the British constitution know that this is merely one of those beautiful fictions with which our constitution abounds—that it is, in fact, requesting the potent Sir Robert to peril his own political existence. Still it is proper to make the effort, if only to stifle the cry of our being a disloyal people.

But, sir, the next all-important question occurs—Are we prepared for a general election? Let us bear in mind, that even were the present parliament dissolved, it will not be an appeal to the people. It will not even be an appeal to those who have petitioned against the bill. It will only be a resort to the existing constituencies. Are those constituencies to be relied on? Of four elections pending during the discussion of this measure, one only is likely to terminate in the rejection of the Maynooth candidate, and he is to be replaced by an ultra-tory. Look at the electoral farce enacted the other day at Woodstock. The nominee of the noble house of Blenheim neutralises the vote of the representative of ten thousand electors; and the nominee members of that mighty sham—the English House of Commons—out-number the *bona fide* representatives of the people. Sir, the consideration of every great political question inevitably leads to this conclusion—that, before there can be any permanent safety for the great popular interests of this empire, the representation must be placed on an entirely new basis. Questions of social polity, corn questions, Irish questions, ecclesiastical questions, sink into comparative insignificance as compared with that mighty question, in which all others are involved, a real radical reform of the reformed House of Commons. It would be folly to stand idly by till this can be accomplished. But I would earnestly impress upon all, and especially dissenters, that although their first efforts should be to remove the unseemly ulcer that has so suddenly

appeared on the body politic, they should endeavour, at the same time, so to purify the constitution as to prevent the recurrence of such evils in future. Now, were a general election to ensue within the next two months, I fear that it would find the liberal portion of the electors wholly unprepared. The two great electoral clubs—the Carlton and the Reform (what a misnomer!)—would have the game almost entirely in their own hands. The League (almost as great obstructionists to the progress of real reform) might perhaps carry off a few of the tricks. But if the complexion of the next parliament were at all altered, it would be of an ultra tory cast.

Let the nonconformists of Great Britain look to this in time. If they are not willing to be entrapped by a "no popery" cry into the committal of their interests to the safe keeping of a church-extension and a church-rate-exacting party, for seven long years, they must bestir themselves. Nonconformists must bear a bolder front than they have been wont to do heretofore. This is no time for dallying. They must gird themselves for the coming contest. Let their electoral committees be formed in every parish throughout England, Scotland, and Wales. It should be the business of each parochial committee to supervise the registry of their respective parishes. The united committees of each electoral district should look around for fit and proper candidates—men qualified by their truthfulness, their honesty, and, above all, their consistency, to represent the wishes of the enlightened, the honest portion of the community. Woe to Britain if such are not to be found! We must have no young lordlings, no ambitious lawyers, no expediency-mongers, no one-idea'd corn law repealers. These candidates, so chosen, must be carried through the election *coute que coute*. There must be no wavering—no compromise.

A central committee, sitting in London, corresponding with the committees of the electoral districts, would, I conceive, be of great service. Great and strenuous efforts must be made, if we would at once and entirely rid ourselves of the domination of the two great aristocratic factions who have so long and so cruelly oppressed the country. I humbly conceive, that such a mode of action as the one sketched above would strike more terror into the breasts of our rulers, than if the petitions sent to parliament were doubled. They know that all this mighty array of signatures is only the semblance of power—that not more than one in a hundred is the sign manual of an elector. Bring the majority of real electors to bear against them, more especially in the small boroughs, and they will pause in their mad career.

An overwhelming sense of the momentous crisis now impending, has induced me to pen these few observations; and I now leave them, sir, in your hands, to be dealt with as you may think fit.

May 6th, 1845.

C. H. ELT.

Imperial Parliament.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

PETITIONS FOR THE WEEK.

Agriculture, for relief of, 91.
County Courts, for establishment of, 4.
Education (Ireland), for removing restrictions on, 10.
Factories, for restricting labour in, 1.
Insolvent Debtors act, for repeal of, 13.
Justices' Clerks bill, against, 9.
Lord's Day, for the better observance of, 25.
Maynooth College, against grant to, 133.
Parochial Settlements bill, against, 22.
Public Houses, for diminishing the number of, 8.
Schoolmasters (Scotland), for ameliorating their condition, 9.
St Asaph and Bangor Dioceses, against union of, 26.
Universities (Scotland), for abolition of tests, 4.

BILL READ A FIRST TIME.

Banking (Ireland) bill.
Scientific Societies bill.
Indemnity bill.
Military Savings' Banks bill.
Colleges (Ireland) bill.

BILLS READ A SECOND TIME.

Courts of Common Law Process bill.
Indemnity bill.

CONSIDERED IN COMMITTEE.

Field Gardens bill.
Physic and Surgery bill.
Supply—£50,000 civil contingencies.

BILL READ A THIRD TIME AND PASSED.

Exchequer Bills (£9,379,600) bill.

DEBATES.

Wednesday, May 7th.

FIELD GARDENS.

MR WILLIAM COWPER moved to go into Committee on his Field Gardens bill, *pro forma*, in order to make certain alterations in it. He intended to meet objections raised by the Home Secretary, by striking out certain clauses relating to advances out of the rates. Other clauses relating to enclosures, similar to some in Lord Lincoln's Enclosure bill, might be struck out hereafter, if Lord Lincoln's bill should be adopted.

MR ROEBUCK said, that the bill had better be disposed of at once. He strongly objected to it as a supplementary poor law, which farmers might use to beat down wages. He contended that the labouring population must depend for subsistence upon wages; and that, if the measure were carried, it would tend to bind the labourer to the soil, and to introduce the depraved cottier system of Ireland. He moved that the bill be committed that day six months.

SIR JAMES GRAHAM objected to refusing so usual a course as the committee, in order that the author of a bill might alter it. He acquitted Mr Cowper of any intention to lower wages; but he pointed out how the bill might be used by those who at once employ labour and own cottages, to lower wages and raise cottage rents in parishes where allotments are allowed.

MR ROEBUCK withdrew his amendment. The House went into committee; the amendments were made; and the bill was reported as amended.

PHYSIC AND SURGERY BILL.

SIR JAMES GRAHAM introduced his medical bill,



with a view to the introduction of several alterations in committee, and to its re-committal, in the amended form, on the 9th of June. Having stated that the differences existing between the general practitioners of the country, and the governing body of the College of Surgeons, were found to be irreconcilable, the Home Secretary explained the course which he intended to take under these circumstances. He would alter his bill in the following manner:—

1. A college of general practitioners to be incorporated by charter, and all students, whatever their future destination, to enter the profession by one portal. The council of the college to consist of forty-eight members, elected by practitioners of ten years' standing, from among practitioners of fifteen years' standing—that is, fifteen years members of the College of Surgeons, and also of the Apothecaries' company.

2. The College of Physicians and Surgeons to appoint a joint board of examiners, to consist of (say) six members of each college.

3. The College of General Practitioners also to appoint a board of examiners.

4. A student seeking to become a general practitioner, to go before the joint board; and then, if an *initiat* be granted, he will go before the other board for further examination, and for a diploma. But no candidate to be received under the age of twenty-two.

5. Persons wishing to practise as surgeons and physicians, may be examined by the joint board, at the age of twenty-six. One who wishes to be a surgeon only, or a physician only, to be examined only by the surgeons or the physicians.

6. The powers of the Apothecaries' company—such of them, at least, as are to be retained—will be transferred (the company consenting to the arrangement) to the College of General Practitioners.

7. The Apothecaries' act to be repealed, thereby obliterating every vestige of the five years' apprenticeship.

8. The Council of Health to include two members of the College of General Practitioners, and the Chancellor or Vice-chancellor of London university. The House, moreover, to decide whether the Council shall be elective, or nominated by the Crown.

9. Graduates of Oxford and Cambridge to be examined by the College of Physicians, and, on passing, to receive diplomas for metropolitan practice.

Sir JAMES stated one or two other alterations, but these are the most important. He concluded by saying that he had done his best to settle the question; and if he failed now, he should despair; which he did not yet do, having, with some inevitable exceptions, the concurrence of the physicians, surgeons, and general practitioners.

Mr HAWES praised the measure, as large, liberal, and he hoped satisfactory to those interested.

Mr WAKLEY was of a contrary opinion. The general practitioners were contumeliously and unjustly degraded, and the multiplication of medical institutions was absurd. Surgery and medicine were one science; those fitted to practise the one should be equally so for the other. He warmly deprecated the treatment which the general practitioners were receiving from the government; and pressed the appointment of a committee to inquire into the conduct and management of the College of Surgeons.

Mr WARBURTON urged that the contemplated object of securing uniformity in medical education throughout the United Kingdom would fail, with respect to the universities of Scotland and the surgical colleges of Ireland.

After considerable debate, during which an unsuccessful attempt was made to "count out" the House, the bill went through committee *pro forma*, Sir J. GRAHAM defending his proposed alterations from the objections of several members.

Thursday, May 8th.

AUSTRALIAN CORN.

Mr HUTT, in pursuance of his notice, proposed that the House should resolve itself into a committee to consider the following resolution:—

"That it is expedient to permit grain and flour, the produce of Australasia, to be imported into the United Kingdom on payment of the same amount of duty as is now levied on grain and flour the produce of Canada."

Those who impugned this motion must prove either that the resolution was incompatible with the welfare of Australasia, or that the advantages which Australasia would derive from it were insignificant in comparison of the evils which it would produce upon the interests of agriculture at home. Australasia was very favourably placed for the production of wheat; it produced also more wheat than its inhabitants could consume. All they wanted to make this beneficence of Providence a source of inestimable advantage to them was a market, and they fancied that they had found it in this country. The voyage was long, but the fineness and dryness of the Australasian climate rendered its wheat able to endure so long a voyage without injury. It was true that we did not prohibit Australasian corn in the British market, but after it had traversed 15,000 miles of ocean, we placed on it a duty which was equal to 20 or 25 per cent. on its original value in Australasia. The people of Australasia saw all the productions of Great Britain imported into Australasia duty free, and complained that their only staple production was placed, on its importation into Great Britain, under a duty which, in point of fact, amounted almost to a prohibition. In 1843 parliament had passed a law admitting Canadian corn into Great Britain duty free. In 1844 parliament refused this same boon to Australasia. This was not only unwise and impolitic, but also a monstrous injustice. He reviewed the arguments employed last year against his motion, and, in reply to the observation that it was unfair to bring it forward again because the corn law was a settled question, reminded the House that the corn law was, above all others, the great unsettled question of the day. By imposing this discriminating duty on Australasian wheat, you were placing a brand of inferiority on the inhabitants of Australasia, and were telling the world and them that they were less worthy of protection than their

brother colonists of Canada. He then pointed out the advantages which would accrue from acceding to his proposition. It was due to Australasia as a matter of justice and good government, and it would open there new avenues to improvement and prosperity. In this country it would extend our commerce, give an impulse to our manufactures, and tend to relieve the distress of agriculture. It would do more—it would knit together Great Britain and her Australasian colonies in the bonds of mutual interest and affection.

Sir WALTER JAMES seconded the motion, as a proper compliance with the wishes of a majority of his constituents; as part of the series of measures of commercial policy commenced by government; and as tending to form our dependencies into a kind of colonial Zollverein, within the bounds of which we should be sure to find markets and friends.

Sir GEORGE CLERK opposed the motion. It was almost impossible that the corn trade could be advantageous to such distant possessions of the crown of Great Britain as our Australian colonies. It was unwise, too, to be perpetually tampering with an article like corn, on which so large a portion of the proprietors of Great Britain had expended so large an amount of capital. Canada was peculiarly situated when, in 1842, government made an exception in favour of Canadian wheat. But with regard to Australia, such an alteration would create great alarm in the agricultural interest at home, and would not be productive of any great traffic in corn with such distant colonies.

In the remainder of the debate, the motion was opposed by agricultural members on the ministerial side, on the ground that it infringed the principle of protection, and would lead to ulterior infractions. Sir R. PEEL spoke rather late in the evening, and did little more than repeat and amplify the arguments advanced by Sir G. CLERK. He pointed to motions on the corn laws threatened, by Mr Villiers for total repeal, and by Lord John Russell for some "cautious and deliberate arrangement;" and called upon the House to stand by the bill of 1842. He minutely recapitulated the circumstances under which the Canada Corn bill was conceded; representing that Canada was in a peculiar commercial position, because it was previously allowed to import flour duty free into this country, and a large carrying trade on the lakes, rivers, and canals, was threatened with extinction. However, no engagement made with any colony ought to stand in the way of substantial justice. But Mr Hutt did not propose to exact the same condition as was exacted from Canada, and impose a duty on wheat imported into Australia. If there were to be a change, he would rather consider the state of the colonies generally. In the present instance, he thought that the evil counterbalanced the good, and therefore he should give his vote against the motion.

On the other side, several members contended, that what had been granted to Canada could not be refused to Australia—the conservative Captain Rous being of that conviction; and the arguments of those who opposed the motion were sharply criticised. Mr LABOUCHERE thought the plea that the agriculturists would be alarmed the worst compliment ever paid to them. It amounted to this—"No man of common sense or intelligence can suppose that any large quantity of corn can come from Australia; but I think the agriculturists so deficient in intelligence and common sense, that I am afraid to alarm them by a measure of this description." Mr WARD ridiculed the objection that the motion was limited to Australia; an argument imported from Peebles—"The vote was too small"—the boon was too small for the colonies to receive. He replied to the argument that the Canada Corn bill was the fulfilment of a promise, by asking who made that promise, and how that promise could be any answer to a party now complaining of injustice? On the contrary, a promise given to one colony implied a promise to another under similar circumstances. Lord HOWICK listened to Sir R. Peel with compassion and shame, to hear such a speech proceed from one so high in station. It was impossible to hear it, remembering what power the speaker possessed of advancing every argument or semblance of an argument, and to entertain a doubt as to the real justice of the case.

The other speakers during the debate were, Mr MILNER GIBSON, Mr BRIGHT, and Mr BARING, in its favour; Mr DABRY, Mr J. S. WORTLEY, Mr STAFFORD O'BRIEN, Mr NEWDEGATE, and Mr PLUMPTRE, against it. Mr WORTLEY, in the course of his speech, made the admission that it would have been much better for the country had no corn laws been in existence.

On a division, the motion was negatived, by 147 to 93; majority, 54.

Friday, May 9th.

ACADEMICAL EDUCATION (IRELAND).

Sir J. GRAHAM moved for leave to bring in a bill for the endowment of provincial colleges in Ireland. He was aware of the importance and the difficulty of the subject, but he felt satisfied that the present measure would tend to improve the social condition of the middle and higher classes in Ireland. After referring to the report of the commissioners appointed to investigate the subject, which dwelt particularly on the religious differences that prevailed in Ireland, the right hon. baronet observed that he was happy to state that the legislature was directing its attention to the removal of these differences, and the doing away with the few remaining enactments which were still to be found on the statute book. It was well known that various attempts had been made to extend the blessings of education to the people of Ireland, and he had no

hesitation in saying that these attempts had failed whenever it was based upon the principle of interfering with the religious belief of the people. That was the opinion of the commission which was appointed to inquire into the subject of national education in Ireland in 1812, and that was the principle on which the measure he was now about to introduce was founded. The same principle was recommended in the committee which was appointed in 1826 and in 1828; a committee of the House of Commons recommended a separate religious education for Protestants and Catholics, the literary education being combined. The matter was referred again to a committee of the House in 1830, and they adopted the suggestions of the committee of 1828, and the following year the present system of national education in Ireland was adopted. By 1839, its schools numbered 1,581, its pupils, 205,000; in 1844, its schools had increased to 3,153, its pupils to 395,000; and the pupils now exceed 400,000 in number. Compare that advance with the failure of the exclusive system. Sir James here made an announcement touching the national system of education:—

Owing to the liberality of the grant, I have great satisfaction in stating to the House, that the National board have divided their school districts into thirty-two, covering the whole surface of Ireland; and resolved, in each of these thirty-two districts, to establish a model school, for the purpose of extending the benefit, on the same principle of this great boon of national education, to the shopkeeping class and those above the lowest.

After a reference to the success of the London University, which was based upon the same principle as the present proposal, he proceeded to give a sketch of the measure; confessing that it might be subject to some future modification in the details:—

He should recommend to the House the establishment of three provincial institutions for education in Ireland, all founded upon the same principle as the metropolitan colleges in England and Scotland. He proposed that Cork should be the site of the college for the south, Galway or Limerick for the west, and Derry or Belfast—most probably Belfast—for the north. He could not pledge himself for the exact amount of the expense which would be necessary to carry this proposal into execution; but he conceived that £30,000 would be wanted for the erection of each of the three collegiate buildings which the government proposed to make, and he would, therefore, mention £100,000 as a sum which would be amply sufficient for that purpose. For the expense of the officers of these institutions, and of the prizes to be established for the encouragement of learning, government recommended that a sum of £18,000 should be supplied annually; in other words, £6,000 for each of them. In each college there would be a principal, with a salary of £1,000 a year, and ten or twelve professors, with salaries of £300 a year each. At Belfast and at Cork a medical school would be attached to each college, and lectures would be there given in pharmacy, surgery, and chemistry. It was the intention of government to propose that in all the three colleges the professors should be nominated by the Crown, and that the Crown should have the power to remove them for good cause. The principal would reside within the walls of the college; but it was not intended to provide within them residences either for the professors or the students. The scheme of instruction would be by lecture, and by daily examination of the pupils, of a stringent and efficient kind. Consistently with the principle of the measure, which he had already described, there would be no faculty of theology in these institutions; and therefore he did not intend to propose the establishment of any professorships of divinity. Religion would not, however, be neglected in these institutions; on the contrary, every facility would be given for the voluntary endowment of theological professorships, and rooms for lectures would be allowed; but the attendance at the lectures of these professors would not be compulsory; for the fundamental principle on which he asked the House to sanction this bill was, the avoidance of all interference, positive or negative, in all matters affecting the freedom of conscience. There is a peculiarity in respect of Belfast: in that city there is already an academical institution, which receives an annual grant of £2,100; four of its professors being divinity professors, appointed by the General Assembly of Ulster: he would not deprive the Assembly of that advantage, but would continue the four professorships. He had reason to believe that, if this bill should be sanctioned by the House, the academical institution would transfer its buildings and its library on easy terms to the new college at Belfast.

Then came an ulterior question. Should these three colleges be incorporated in one central university? He confessed that he thought they should be so. Again, where should that university be? undoubtedly in Dublin. That suggests another difficulty: in Dublin is Trinity college, founded by Queen Elizabeth, for Protestant purposes—the education of clergymen of the Church of England. But Dublin University is not quite exclusive: by the Relief act of 1793, Roman Catholic students were admitted to the studies and honours of that university. Still, the emoluments, the professorships, and studentships, were reserved to members of the church of England; and Mr O'Connell had given evidence that it would not be proper to interfere with those Protestant studentships. And, apart from other considerations, any attempt to force the Roman Catholics, or dissenters, upon the fellowships and scholarships of Trinity college, would render such a revision of charters necessary, and would give such offence to Protestant feeling throughout the empire, that he had no hesitation in stating, that to such a proposition government would not give the slightest sanction. However, although he had thought it right in candour to allude to these difficulties, the settlement of them would be open to the future consideration of parliament; for the bill did no more than enable the Crown to found the three new colleges. Sir James passed an emphatic eulogium on the exertions of Mr Wyse in this matter, and cited his authority for founding provincial colleges in Ireland. He concluded by recommending the mea-

sure to the House as conducive to concord, order, peace, and virtue, in Ireland.

A long and animated debate followed. Mr WYSE, the first to speak after Sir James Graham, cordially welcomed the measure; though he pointed out alterations in it which he should desire—such as the establishment of theological chairs in the new colleges in connexion with the several religious denominations, and some provision for giving the teachers a kind of parental control over youths absent from their families. He recognised the difficulties respecting the Dublin University. He hailed the general proposition with satisfaction: and heartily rejoiced at the near approach of the time in which Ireland might hope to be regenerated by improved intelligence and morality, rather than by force and violence. This was the general tone of the liberal Irish members, several of whom spoke, including Mr E. B. ROCHE, who, "as a repealer, hailed this measure as a great boon to the people of Ireland." Mr SHEIL formed some exception to the rule; for he insisted more strongly on the necessity of removing from the new institutions the reproach that no religious instruction should be given in them; on the expediency of compelling the students to attend divine worship; and, with warmth, on the necessity of throwing open Dublin University, lest, with its wealth and social importance, it should be paramount over the rest.

Lord PALMERSTON promised for the measure, in its progress, the most fair and earnest support of the whigs.

Mr SHAW, and the Irish conservative members, offered no opposition to the motion, acquiescing rather in sullen reluctance than threatening resistance.

The strongest dissent came from Sir ROBERT INGLIS, who pronounced the measure to be, not of local, but of universal importance. It was the first instance in the history of Great Britain, in which a national endowment for education, without any provision for religious institutions, had been made by it as a state. Such instruction as Sir James Graham proposed to establish, ought to be erected, not only for the enlightenment of man, but also for the glory of God. A more gigantic scheme of godless education had never been proposed in any country than that which was now under consideration. Mr PLUMPTRE and Mr ALEXANDER HOPE more faintly echoed these sentiments.

Sir ROBERT PEEL saw in Mr Sheil's speech that his own difficulty still lay in Ireland; and, in a very calm, but earnest manner, he proceeded to contrast the conflicting demands which arose on all sides; Sir Robert Inglis requiring Protestant religion to be taught, which would merely render the scheme nugatory; others requiring Roman Catholic religion to be taught, and so provoking more bitter opposition. He reminded Sir Robert Inglis, that in supporting the existing Belfast Institution, the honourable baronet was supporting a "godless institution;" for there the professors have long given up the attempt to enforce attendance on theological lectures or religious worship. In explanation, Mr SHEIL disclaimed any intention not to aid and support the measure.

Leave was given to bring in the bill, and it was read a first time.

MISCELLANEOUS.

SCANDAL AT EXECUTIONS.—In answer to Captain Polhill, on Wednesday, Sir J. GRAHAM stated that, in consequence of the interference of his predecessor in the Home office, the Marquis of Normanby, it was understood that the corporation of the city of London had established regulations by which the public generally were absolutely prohibited from being present at the "condemned sermon" in Newgate. But his attention having been called to the irregularities which had occurred on the Sunday preceding and on the morning of Hocker's execution, he had directed a prison inspector to proceed to Newgate, in order to institute an inquiry, and, if his report, when made, should seem to require it, to introduce a legislative measure founded on it. Mr Alderman COPELAND said that, from his own experience as a magistrate, having recently to convict individuals for stealing at the very foot of the gallows, he had come to the conclusion that executions should no longer be public spectacles, and that legislative interference was necessary.

THE SLANDERS ON MAZZINI.—On Wednesday night Sir JAMES GRAHAM, in answer to Mr Bouverie, stated the results of the inquiries he had caused to be made into the truth of the accusation against Mr Mazzini, as to his participation in the alleged assassination of two individuals at Marseilles. Up till Tuesday his original impression had been rather confirmed than otherwise; but on that day there had been transmitted to him, through the Foreign office, the explicit opinion of the judge and public prosecutor engaged at the trial of the supposed assassins, declaring that nothing whatever had been elicited which in the slightest degree inculpated Mr Mazzini. Had he known this before, he said, he would have abstained from making the statement which he had done; but, having made it, and thereby inflicted a public injury on Mr Mazzini, he only hoped that his retraction would be made as public as his original accusation. Mr DUNCOMBE expressed himself satisfied with this result.

THE SLAVE TRADE.—On Wednesday, Lord PALMERSTON asked whether, in pursuance of the ninth article in the Washington treaty of August, 1842, between England, Austria, Russia, and Prussia, steps have been taken, by joint representations from the governments of Great Britain and the United States, to cause countries in which markets for slaves exist to close those markets; and whether, in pursuance of the seventeenth article of the treaty of

December, 1841, between Austria, England, Prussia, and Russia, the maritime powers which have not joined in that treaty have been invited to do so? Sir ROBERT PEEL replied, that several conferences had taken place between Lord Aberdeen and Mr Everett, to consider whether the joint representations should be made literally together, or separately; and it was decided, on considerations of national pride, that the representations would probably be more effectual if made separately. Representations were accordingly made to Brazil, by both English and American ministers. With respect to the second question, he believed that no vessels belonging to Belgium, Greece, or Hanover, are engaged in the slave trade, nor are their flags used in the promotion of that traffic. No doubt it would be very desirable that all the maritime powers of Europe should unite to put it down; but there are considerations connected with the refusal of France to ratify the treaty, which are judged to form obstacles in the way of representation being made to the three powers alluded to.

CALL OF THE HOUSE.—Mr HUME has given notice that, on the 22nd inst, he will move "a call of the House," with the object of bringing the Irish absentee members to attend to their parliamentary duties.

On Friday, Sir JAMES GRAHAM postponed the Parochial Settlements bill till after the third reading of the Maynooth bill, and till after the discussion on Lord John Russell's resolutions.

"JUSTICES' JUSTICE."—On the same evening, Mr THOMAS DUNCOMBE drew attention to a petition from Eliza Price, a married woman, who, being advanced in pregnancy, was taken up for assault under a warrant by Mr Briscoe, a Worcestershire magistrate, treated in a very arbitrary manner, and chained all night to a post. Sir JAMES GRAHAM said that the main statements were true, and the case demanded further inquiry; which it should have.

On Friday night, the House adjourned till Thursday, the 15th (to-morrow).

HOUSE OF LORDS.

Thursday, May 8th.

The Royal Assent was given, by commission, to the Customs' Duties bill, the Auction Duties bill, the Railway Clauses Consolidation bill, and three cognate measures, and to several other public and private bills of less note.

Petitions against the Maynooth grant were presented by the Earl of FALMOUTH, Earl FITZWILLIAM, the Bishop of NORWICH, and Earl of WINCHILSEA (26).

RAILWAYS.—A discussion arose on a petition presented by Lord Brougham, respecting the possibility of placing upon a more eligible footing the negotiations between landed proprietors and railway companies. It seemed to be generally felt that a railway company, armed with an act of parliament, was placed in an advantageous position to bargain with the landholder, and that, under the present system, the poorer landowner was placed in a disadvantageous position as compared with the wealthy proprietor, in obtaining the value of his property from the railway company. In the course of the discussion, Lord BROUGHAM expressed a hope that, in order to check the present railway fever, the session of parliament might be brought to a close as speedily as possible, and that, at all events, its close should not be delayed a single day on account of railways. The more important railways might be permitted to pursue their bills next session from the point at which they had been broken off, and the delay would not be of any consequence in respect of the less important ones, while it would, also, have the effect of allowing the fever of railway speculation to subside during the recess—a benefit to the country far more than commensurate to any inconvenience which could thereby be occasioned.

Some bills on the table were forwarded a stage; after which, on the motion of the Duke of WELLINGTON, their lordships adjourned until Friday, the 16th inst.

General News.

FOREIGN.

AMERICA.

The Great Western steam-ship, which left New York on the 24th of April, arrived at Liverpool on Thursday evening. The Caledonia, which carried out Sir Robert Peel's speech of the 4th April on the Oregon affair, arrived at Boston on the 21st; and the speech had of course excited a lively sensation. From the journals of an inferior class it provoked a storm of angry cries for war. The more intelligent journals receive the matter differently. The *New York Journal of Commerce*, for instance, observes, that the British people, and the government too, have misinterpreted the language used by President Polk in his inaugural address; and expresses its conviction that the whole thing will be fully explained away, and the question amicably settled to the satisfaction of both countries. The *New York Tribune* says, the relations have now assumed such an aspect as to render either war or arbitration indispensable; and declares itself in favour of the latter alternative. The *New York Courier and Inquirer* is glad that the question is now set forth between the two countries in unmistakable terms; thinks that the Americans have underrated the importance which the English attach to the Oregon territory; recognises the determination expressed by both nations, but anticipates from their wisdom mutual concession. The public opinion of New York is, however, a somewhat over-favourable specimen of the opinions prevailing in the United States.

A letter is published by Mr Buchanan to General

Almonte, dated March 4th, forwarding the Mexican minister's passport, but accompanying it by a hope that the difference between the United States and Mexico may yet be accommodated.

It is said that an immense quantity of salted meat was in preparation for the English market.

There had been a frightful conflagration at Pittsburgh, rivaling, in extent of destruction, that at Hamburg. It broke out in a frame building over an icehouse, about noon, on the 11th April, and spread rapidly. The local authorities met, and tried plans for checking the flames; but they raged for twenty-two hours, and did not abate until twelve squares of the city were destroyed, comprising 1,000 or 1,200 houses. There are reports of lives lost, but only one death is mentioned as certain. The loss in buildings, merchandise, &c., is estimated at 10,000,000 dollars.

By the Great Western, advices from Mexico come down to the 29th March. The government was preparing for hostilities with the United States, and had begun by exhorting all parties to join against the common enemy. Senor Cuevas, the minister for foreign affairs, had submitted to Congress a decree, declaring the treaties of commerce, friendship, and navigation with the United States to be at an end; closing all ports against the commerce of the United States; and announcing that "no proposition relative to the restoration of friendship will be listened to from the United States, except upon the basis of the relinquishment of the plan of the annexation of Texas." The Chambers proceeded to discuss this decree with closed doors. The United States minister had been informed that the diplomatic relations with his government had ceased. It is reported, however, that Mexico is willing to recognise the independence of Texas, provided the new government will decline annexation to the United States.

The accounts, which come down to the 9th April, are very conflicting as to the state of opinion in Texas. The most decided and important statement is this, in the *New Orleans Picayune*, on the authority of private letters of recent date and vouched for as authentic:—"President Jones had returned to Washington; and the United States minister, Major Donelson, had been treated so cavalierly by him and his cabinet, that he spoke of withdrawing from the seat of government to Galveston."

Papers from Rio de Janeiro, to the 22nd March, announce the total pacification of the rebel province of Rio Grande, and a general amnesty.

Private advices are of a still more satisfactory character; almost all agree in the expectation of a pacific solution to the Oregon question, and lead to the belief that the American cabinet will readily resume negotiations, with the view to an amicable compromise or settlement of the mutual claims of England and America by means of arbitration.

FRANCE.

On Monday began the debate on the bill authorising the gradual armament of the fortification round Paris; the completion of which is expected to take five years. The government had demanded a credit of 17,000,000 francs; which the committee had reduced to 14,130,000. The bill was opposed by several deputies, on the ground that it is needless, as there is no prospect of aggression. The most curious speech in opposition to the measure was made by M. Arago, who propounded a novel plan for the protection of Paris in case of attack, by means of the water of the Seine, which is thus described by the *Constitutionnel*:

If he were master, he would establish at the Pont Neuf an ingenious and moveable dam, which would place the river at his disposal. He would carry the river water by these means into the ditches that surround the city, from which he could retire them at his pleasure. He would raise the water by means of powerful engines, to a height from which he could distribute it to all quarters of the place, and by that means suppress any fire that might be produced by the enemy's bombs. He would throw into the trenches opened by the enemy a sort of artificial rain—an intelligent inundation, which would destroy the works, and disconcert the workers. Add to this numerous light-houses, placed upon, and sheltered by, the ramparts, which, by the aid of mirrors, would illuminate the country and prevent all surprise, steam cannon which would render an assault impossible, and would decimate regiments by the dozen, with carbines and cannons of the most perfect construction, and you will have an idea of the frightful nature of the arsenal which our Archimedes advocated in the tribune.

On Tuesday, M. de Lamartine made an eloquent speech, on the whole subject of the fortifications, which he vehemently denounced. He declared that the tendency of every administration, since 1830 to the present time, was to destroy the effects of the revolution of July and to restore absolute power to the Crown. The bill for the fortification of Paris he considered a portion of the same system; and the effect of it would be to throw additional weight into the balance in favour of government and against public liberty. He passed in review all the acts of the government since the revolution of July. He showed the new dynasty divorcing from the people the day after its elevation to the throne; casting off Lafayette and Lafayette, to whom it had been so much indebted; suppressing the right of association; profiting by every attempt of the factious to curtail the public liberties; passing the laws of September against the press and the jury; converting the Chamber of Peers into an exceptional tribunal; and he asked if those facts did not sufficiently justify the distrust manifested by the people at the idea of the seat of the government and the legislature being surrounded by fortresses. Count Duchatel, the minister of the interior, replied to M. de Lamartine, and vindicated the policy pursued by the government.

On Wednesday there was a personal altercation between M. Thiers, the originator of the measure,

and M. de Lamartine. M. Thiers treated with "contempt" the "calumnious" remarks of M. de Lamartine; and the political poet fiercely resented the ex-minister's expressions. But on Thursday, the President stated that the quarrel had been amicably settled.

The first article of the bill granting the credit of 14,130,000 francs for the requisite material, was adopted by 227 to 144. On Friday the whole bill was carried by 227 to 131. Several amendments, which were proposed for the purpose of impeding the government from removing the artillery from Bourges, excepting in the event of absolute danger of foreign invasion, were successively rejected, and the clause proposed by the committee, that it shall only be removed in the event of war, was adopted. The discussion was of no interest.

The Minister of Foreign Affairs (says the *Constitutionnel*) has sent out an order to M. Perrin, the French Consul at Bolivia, to proceed to the Sandwich islands, and enter into treaty with their authorities. The Minister of the Marine has, it is said, placed a ship of war at the disposal of M. Perrin on the occasion of this mission.

The *Revue de Paris* states, that "the last accounts from Algeria were of a somewhat alarming character. The insurrectionary intrigues of Abd-el-Kader," it says, "have had results which daily assume an additional gravity. The holy war is preached on all sides, and most of the tribes are in arms, in the direction of Milianah. A *rencontre* has even already taken place, in which we had to deplore the death of several of our brave soldiers, and a great number were wounded. Marshal Bugeaud was to have left Algiers on the 1st inst, to take the field at the head of all the disposable troops."

Private letters state that the draft of the convention respecting the right of search, agreed upon by the commissioners (the Duke de Broglie and Dr Lushington), which has been transmitted for approval from London to Paris, had been returned with an objection to one of its provisions. The precise terms of the proposed convention were not, of course, known; but it was understood that they contemplated treaties with the African native chiefs to prevent the sale and embarkation of slaves; and, in the event of failure or deception on the part of such chiefs, or any of them, that their territory be blockaded, and possession taken of their factories.

M. Guizot is still in retirement at his villa of Beausejour, but he is so far recovered that he is able to give daily advice in the management of the affairs of his department. His general health is said, however, to be greatly shaken, and it is doubtful if he will be able to resume the whole of the labours of his office for some months to come.

FOREIGN MISCELLANY.

THE FREE CORPS IN SWITZERLAND.—A letter from Lucerne, of the 1st, gives an account of a curious sentence, at Nidwald, upon a Lieutenant Nermann, who had joined the Free Corps in the attack upon Lucerne. He is condemned to stand in the public market place for four hours with a rod in his hand, then to be flogged with it, and afterwards to be imprisoned for six months, during which he is to receive "religious instruction."

BRAZIL.—By the arrival of the Queen's schooner *Viper*, advices have been received from Rio de Janeiro to the 23rd of March. The Brazilian government had taken energetic steps to enforce a more liberal commercial policy on Great Britain. They had officially announced, that as the treaty conferring on British ships of war the right of searching the vessels of Brazil, for preventing the importation of slaves, expired on the 13th of March, it shall not be resumed until Brazilian sugars are admitted into the British dominions at the same rate of duty as that on sugars from any other country. There had been some dispute between the officials and the British merchants respecting a claim on the property of deceased foreigners; commissioners had been appointed to treat with the British minister on the subject; but a like announcement had been made in this case, that nothing further should be done until Brazil sugar had been put on a footing of equality with other foreign produce.

THE JEWS.—A letter from Warsaw, of April 23, states that the Emperor of Russia has published a ukase, declaring that all Jews must lay aside their costume and assume the national one. No one can escape from the effects of this decree longer than for five years from the present time, and even till then only by paying a sum of money.

The notorious slaver *felucca*, which repulsed the attack of the *Growler's* pinnace, has at length been captured in the Bight of Benin, by H.M. steam vessel *Hydra*. The crew of the *felucca* consisted of upwards of sixty desperate ruffians; the pinnace, which she had beat off, had but seven men on board. The *Hydra* has since captured another slaver, the *Papita*, after a hard night's chase, with 312 slaves on board. Both the vessels were very fast sailers, and had repeatedly escaped from the cruisers.

GENERAL TOM THUMB.—The Tribunal of Commerce was occupied last week with a trial in which Mr Edward Sherwood Stratton, father of the far-famed General Tom Thumb, was plaintiff, and M. Nestor Roqueplan, the manager of the *Théâtre des Variétés*, defendant. The plaintiff applied to the court to prevent the defendant from placarding a piece which was to be played under the title of "Tom Pouce," and demanded damages to the amount of 2,000 francs for each offence. For the defendant it was argued, that the plaintiff, being a foreigner, could not plead; that the name of "Tom Pouce," like that of "Petit Poucet," belonged to any one that choose to take it; that no

confusion could arise between the piece at the Variétés and the miniature-man at the Concerts Vivienne, since the bills announced that the part of Tom Pouce was to be filled by the little Duhamel. The tribunal rejected these arguments; and declared, that as the young Stratton was known by the name of "Tom Pouce," as it was that under which he exhibited at the Concerts Vivienne, and which had become his property, the defendant must remove from the bills the name of "Tom Pouce," and pay all the costs of the suit. The piece at the Variétés has since been advertised under the name of "Tom Pouff."—*Galignani's Messenger*.

GIPSY SLAVERY.—One of the last numbers of the *Moon*, a journal published in Hungarian Croatia, contains the following advertisement, which the *Journal des Débats* quotes, with the assurance that it is not a joke, but a perfectly legal announcement:—"To be sold at Bucharest, Faubourg Saint Venire, by MM. the sons and heirs of the late Sirdar Nicolas Nika, two hundred Bohemian (gipsy) families, of which the greater number of males are labourers, locksmiths, goldsmiths, shoemakers, and musicians. The proprietors of these Bohemians will not sell less than five families in a lot; but, as a compensation, the price of each individual is less by a ducat than that fixed by the ordinary tariff, and facilities for the payment will be granted."

Letters from Lucerne of the 3rd inst, state that Dr Steiger had been convicted of high treason, and sentenced to be shot. It was, however, generally believed that a pardon would be granted. All the prisoners who are not natives of Lucerne had been released, and the only captives remaining, 584 in number, belonged to the canton.

Postscript.

Wednesday, May 14.

ARRIVAL OF THE CALEDONIA FROM AMERICA.—This splendid steamer, which arrived at Liverpool last night, brings advices from New York to the 30th ult. It does not bring any very decisive intelligence as to the views of the United States government and people on the Oregon question. The *Washington Globe*, supposed to express the views of the administration, writes:—

It is our solemn conviction that we shall soon again be called on to take up arms against our former and only adversary. It is perfectly manifest that they regard this as a favourable moment to renew the system of aggression upon us which has resulted in war heretofore; which to submit to is only to invite new wrongs—wrongs premeditated, not for the advantage which accrues to them, but arranged and settled upon merely as the means of bringing on the conflict of arms, or an entire abandonment of our rights as a nation. The only mode to avoid this is, the firm adherence by the President to the letter and spirit of his inaugural address.

The *New York Courier and Inquirer* does not believe that any such action will be sustained by the people, but that the question will be submitted to arbitration. "We continue," says the same journal, "in an agitated state in respect of our foreign relations; not that any one thinks war is at hand, but that many fear, through the complication of difficulties, that war may at last come." The *New York Commercial Advertiser*, of the 30th ult., publishes a rumour "that the result of the President's deliberations with his cabinet, on the Oregon question, was a determination to follow the example of the British government on the Maine boundary affair, and send a special minister to London. Even the minister has been named—Mr Van Buren—and we have heard also, in this connexion, the name of another distinguished leader in the democratic party." The news from Mexico is still warlike. Mr Shanahan, the American minister, had retired to Tacubaya, and was expected to take his departure for the United States in a few days. The *New York Journal of Commerce* publishes the following important extract of a letter from the city of Mexico, dated the 28th of March:—"The government has issued orders for the defence of the ports, fortresses, &c., and it is acknowledged that if Texas does not comply with their last request, the war will be openly declared." The *Caledonia* has brought over the Hon. A. Smith, Chargé d'Affaires of Texas, whose mission, according to the *New York Herald*, is, "to see what new conditions they may procure for Texas, provided she remain independent, and refuse annexation to this country."

FRANCE.—The *Presse* says that M. Guizot was received by the King and the royal family on Saturday, and that his health is gradually improving.

There are plenty of rumours of royal visits. The King and Queen of Holland are, it is said, about to visit the French monarch, who is expected in a month or two to have an interview with the Queen of Spain at San Sebastian. The papers have also settled that Queen Victoria is to visit the Chateau d'Eu this season.

On Sunday, the Duke and Duchess of Cambridge, Prince George, the Hereditary Grand Duke and Grand Duchess of Mecklenburgh Strelitz, &c., &c., visited the Royal Academy.

LORD JOHN RUSSELL'S RESOLUTIONS.—We are glad to know that the Metropolitan Complete Suffrage Association has determined on holding a public meeting to adopt measures in support of Sharman Crawford's amendment to the member for London's proposed resolutions.

THE FREE-TRADE BAZAAR.—Yesterday, this magnificent exhibition was opened at one shilling each person, according to advertisement; and for two

hours before the doors were opened, and during the whole afternoon while they were open, crowds of persons, chiefly holiday visitors from the country, were standing outside anxious to be admitted. The number who passed through the house was, upon close scrutiny, ascertained to be not less than 8,500 persons, or from that to 9,000. The attractions were, as regards manufactures, new and varied. Every day, and almost every hour, has added to the variety and richness of the exhibition since it opened. Bales and boxes already received are still to be opened, and every day new ones arrive; while of the contents of those arrived and opened much remains to be spread out and given to public view.

The hon. member for South Shields, Mr J. T. Wawn, yielding to the "pressure from without," has declined to vote for the further reading of the Maynooth bill, and signified that, if neutrality on his part does not meet with the wishes of his constituents, he will resign, and fall back upon private life. —*Newcastle Journal*.

Mr B. D'ISRAELI, M.P., has again taken the field as a political novelist. "Sybil; or, the Two Nations" is the title of his new work. In comparing it with "Coningsby," the *Morning Chronicle* says, "There is very little personality in 'Sybil,' very little pleasant caricaturing, or laughable malice, or Gilray grotesqueness; but there is more Venetian theory, more high-flown Young England mystery; much apologising for the exiled Stuart family; much satire against the 'great English families of the Reformation;' and some cruel hard hitting at the Stadhouder of Holland' and 'the Dutch system of finance.' The author's politics are aristocratic and democratic. In his aristocratic moods he rallies round the throne; he denounces the great whig families that have bullied the sacred sovereign; he yearns towards the people, and blesses them with an unction as affecting as Elliston's, who burst into tears while performing the part of George IV. at Drury lane; and he calls upon us for sympathy for Queen Anne, and for detestation of the inglorious, impious, and immoral memory of poor dear William III.!" The *Times* has given it one notice, and promises more. "The great object of the work," it says, "is to lay bare the framework of modern English society, in the largest sense of that word. Mr D'Israeli, with a quick perception and a strong hand, thrusts aside the draperies with which it is concealed, and exposes to the gaze the unsoundness and deformity of many of its parts. The false position in which the various classes of the community stand with relation to each other, the harshness with which our social system, in many respects, acts upon the masses, he discusses with great talent and boldness."

A letter received in South Shields last week from Sydney states that Frost, the chartist convict, is in comfortable circumstances there, being on a ticket of leave, and the manager of a large mercantile store. The writer states he looks healthy and happy. —*Newcastle Journal*.

MR O'CONNELL AND THE NEW EDUCATIONAL MEASURE.—Alas for the Premier! The more liberally he bestows his boons upon Ireland, the greater is the scorn and contempt with which his pretended liberality is received. Mr O'Connell, at the Conciliation hall on Monday, quite agreed with Sir R. Inglis in denouncing the measure as "a gigantic scheme of godless education":—

He seldom coincided with that gentleman, but he quite agreed with him in his denunciation of the government plan. He considered the present scheme as the most absurd and foolish that was ever proposed, and he felt confident it would not meet with the approval of the Irish people [cheers]. It appeared as if the government were acting in accordance with the plan of the King of the French, who, having first destroyed the civil liberties of his subjects, was now seeking to annihilate their religious freedom. In conclusion, Mr O'Connell said that he would avoid giving any notice of motion on the subject, as he would await the decision of the bishops, and his opinion would be based on that decision. The ministry, he felt confident, meant well, but they were badly advised.

Mr R. D. Browne, M.P., followed in a similar strain. Mr O'Connell made a long speech on the subject of the proposed compulsory attendance of the Irish members at their place in parliament. He most emphatically denied that the English parliament had any power whatever to compel the attendance of the Irish members. The Speaker had certainly authority over the English members, but he had no authority whatever to issue any warrant affecting the Irish members. He and the repeal members should not, therefore, attend. "In one event, only, should he yield obedience to it, and that was, if any member would attempt to resist it by force. If such a contingency as that should happen, he would at once bow with submission, and proceed to London. If arrested, he would send to the Court of Exchequer, and sue out a writ of *habeas corpus*." A petition to the legislature was adopted, praying that Irish corporations might be placed on an equality with those of England. Mr O'Connell then brought forward the third report of the committee of the Repeal Association, on the Irish land question, which he pronounced to be the most important that had as yet proceeded from that body. The rent for the week was £420 13s. 1d.

CORN MARKET. MARK LANE. THIS DAY.

	Wheat	Barley	Oats	Beans	Peas	Flour
English ..	3160	1180	1290			
Scotch....						
Irish			2780			
Foreign ..	3620	5250	9110			

There is not much doing; but no alteration in price since Monday.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

- "G. F. A." We really cannot pollute our pages with any reference to the *Weekly Dispatch*.
 "Freedom." Some such proposition may possibly be mooted at the approaching Anti-Maynooth Conference.
 "An Old Nonconformist." We have not room for his letter, which we should have regretted, but that the call of a dissenting conference is calculated to meet the evil of which he complains.
 "C. S." We are at present too much engaged with realities to find room for dreams.

Terms for advertising in the *Nonconformist*.
 For 7 lines....5s. 0d. | For 10 lines....6s. 0d.
 For every additional line..... 4d.

* Advertisements from the country must be accompanied by a post-office order, or reference for payment in London.

The Nonconformist.

LONDON: WEDNESDAY, MAY 14, 1845.

WE beg to announce to our subscribers that we publish our usual supplementary numbers during the present month, to enable us to give reports of the anniversary meetings of the various religious and philanthropic societies. The third extra number will appear on Monday morning next, May 19th.

SUMMARY.

SINCE our last, the House of Commons has been occupied by several questions, and discussions thereupon; in which, neither the Cabinet ministers nor their subservient majority appeared to advantage. On Wednesday night, Sir James Graham recanted the insinuations which he had permitted himself to utter against the character of Mr Mazzini, and apologised "with bated breath and whispering humbleness." The Home Secretary has proved himself one of the forwardest men of the empire, to perpetrate acts of baseness which it becomes necessary for him afterwards to undo by acts of public penance. His apologies, however, whether to insulted nations or to calumniated individuals, have lost all grace, and are as worthless as the confessions of a malefactor when he stands convicted, before his country, of grave offences against social morality. Sir Robert Peel and Sir James Graham have, each in his own way, disclosed their real character to the British people, and they turn out, what we have all along proclaimed them to be, clever, unprincipled quacks.

Mr Cowper's Field Gardens bill was, on the same evening, recommitted *pro forma*, in order to make it tally, in its provisions, with the government Commons' Inclosure bill. The House also re-committed Sir James Graham's Physic and Surgery bill, as well as the College of Physicians and Surgeons bill, in order to allow of the introduction of another batch of government amendments. The measure was characterised by Mr Wakley as one by which the general practitioners were contumeliously and unjustly degraded, and as multiplying, to an absurd extent, the medical institutions of the country. Both bills will remain *in statu quo* until the 9th of June.

On Thursday evening, Mr Hutt moved a resolution, that it is expedient to permit grain and flour, the produce of Australasia, to be imported into the United Kingdom, on payment of the same amount of duty as is now levied on grain and flour, the produce of Canada. The motion was resisted by Sir George Clerk, on the ground that the benefit to Australasia would be so small as to prove worthless, whilst the alarm to the agricultural interest would prove so great as to be inconvenient; and this self-stultifying argument Sir R. Peel did not scruple to back with the influence of his authority—a course which drew down upon him the severe rebuke of Lord Howick, who appealed to the House, whether any gentleman who had listened to the right hon. baronet had not felt for him the most sincere compassion, under the severe and painful task which had been placed upon him; and who asked, amidst the cheers of the House, whether the Premier had not done mischief enough nearer home, by teaching the fatal lesson that concession must be extorted from the British parliament—at least when made through him—not from a sense of justice or fairness, but from its fears. Notwithstanding all which, however, ministers obtained a majority of 54.

On Friday Sir James Graham disclosed his scheme for the endowment of new colleges for academical education in Ireland. He proposes to establish three provincial colleges in that kingdom—to be located, one in Cork, one in Limerick or Galway, and one in Belfast or Derry. As a matter of course, he intends that the professors at these colleges shall be nominated by the Crown, and shall be removable on sufficient cause; the principals to have residence within the walls of each college, the professors and students without. Theology is not to be taught under government sanction, but every facility is to be given for the endowment, by private benefaction, of theological

professorships. At Belfast and at Cork a medical school will be attached to the college, and lectures given in pharmacy, surgery, and chemistry. Whether the three colleges shall be incorporated in one central university, the bill leaves open for future decision; and against any interference with Trinity college, Dublin, Sir James Graham expressed his strongest opposition: About £100,000 will be wanted to erect the several buildings, and an annual sum of £20,000 to endow the professorships. The measure was, of course, hailed by the liberal members of the House as a right good measure, and equally, of course, was denounced by Sir R. Inglis as "a gigantic scheme of godless education." It was not, perhaps, so obviously of course that Mr Sheil should declare his belief that the absence from the bill of any provision for religious teaching would render it unacceptable to the Catholic priesthood of Ireland. We have given our sentiments upon the measure below. After the conversation which ensued upon the introduction of the bill, the House adjourned until Thursday, the 15th.

The Convention of Protestant dissenters, on the Maynooth grant, will meet on Tuesday, the 20th inst, at Crosby hall, Bishopsgate street. Circulars convening the assembly have been addressed to some thousands of ministers and churches. An active provisional committee is engaged in making preparations with a view to the transaction of business as speedily and efficiently as possible. The utmost freedom will be given to discussion. The Conference will be called upon, after due deliberation, to decide upon such declarations and practical resolutions as they may deem most suitable to the occasion. We earnestly trust, therefore, that our friends will be prompt, and that where they are unable to send delegates from their own locality, they will nominate gentlemen resident in the metropolis, upon whom they can thoroughly depend as their representatives. It is of immense importance that the gathering should be an imposing one, and that the dissenters of the three kingdoms should speak out unequivocally the views they entertain of the new ministerial policy. We are happy to observe that the committee of the Deputies of the Three Denominations in and around London, have published a resolution expressing their approval of the objects of the Convention, and recommending their constituents to be represented in that assembly. We anticipate a large and influential meeting. We have every reason to hope that its proceedings will be characterised by combined wisdom and firmness, and we earnestly look for some unanimous decision which may guide dissenters in their future electoral policy.

The anti-Maynooth agitation is far from having subsided. The *Banner of Ulster*, the organ of the Presbyterian party in the north of Ireland, contains the following announcement:—

From Ulster, Sir Robert Peel will obtain an unpleasant reply to the assertion that his measure is favoured by the Protestant population. He will be left under no misapprehension on that subject. We believe that the Presbyterian congregations will all petition against the measure, with the exception of those parties whose gratitude for the Chapels' bill will lead them in a different direction.

Those Presbyteries that met on Tuesday have, we understand, recommended the adoption of petitions to all their congregations. Many of them had previously transmitted petitions. Others had postponed the performance of that duty; but those who were in that situation, will now petition the House of Commons before the bill is read a third time. From the most distant parts of the province, these petitions must be posted on Friday, the 16th instant.

We have seen copies of the petitions adopted by several of the largest congregations in this town, and the petitioners urge the House not to allow the *regium donum* to prevent them from rejecting the Maynooth bill, because they prefer to lose the endowment rather than suffer the last measure.

A general impression exists in this quarter that it will be better to have no religious establishment in Ireland than a bad one, and the impolitic proceedings of the Peel government have done more to mature this opinion than all the speeches, arguments, and pamphlets of the past twenty years.

A town's meeting has been held at Birmingham, at which some 6,000 passed resolutions, going the whole length of non-endowment principles. Several other meetings have been held, which we cannot now stay to specify. We are pleased, however, to observe that opposition to the bill is gradually settling down upon the broad basis assumed by the Anti-state-church Association; and, should the contest continue much longer, we may hope that the question of questions will become tolerably familiar to most reflecting minds.

The League bazaar, which was opened on Thursday last, at Covent Garden theatre, and a description of which will be found in another column, presents a spectacle upon which we find it difficult to comment. That it exhibits the earnest attachment of the middle classes of this empire to the cause of free trade, cannot be disputed. That it will be a means of attracting some attention to the great object it is intended to promote, we have no doubt. In aid of this special cause it may be, for aught we know, a legitimate contrivance; but we have, we confess, some misgivings as to the propriety of promoting high principles, whether

political or religious, by such exhibitions. To our minds they always assume an equivocal air, and somewhat lower that seriousness of tone which ought ever to pervade an agitation for large and righteous ends. It may be a matter of taste, and, in regard to the anti-corn-law agitation, it certainly is not a matter of conscience. We only hope that the success of the League will not make their project a catching one. The Council, however, is now called to somewhat sterner duties. The representation of South Lancashire will be vacant, on the re-assembling of parliament, by the retirement of Lord Francis Egerton. Who is to succeed him? Is Mr Brown to be returned by the dissenters of South Lancashire? Will free-trade principles swallow up all concern for anti-establishment and anti-Maynooth principles? We shall see. The League have now a trying duty to perform, and, unless they perform it worthily, they will most essentially damage their own cause.

In another column will be found the fourth annual Report of the National Complete Suffrage Union, and a recommendation from the Council to the friends of political equality throughout the country, urging them to petition the House of Commons in support of the amendment which Mr Sharman Crawford will submit upon the resolutions to be introduced by Lord John Russell, on the condition of the labouring classes. We trust their suggestion will, as far as possible, be complied with. The motion of the hon. member for Rochdale is well timed, and admirably adapted to test the sincerity of the whig leader and his supporters. It very politely pulls off the mask from the high-sounding professions of the noble lord, and proves their real value. With such a gauge to measure the depth of his concern for the welfare of the people, we do not anticipate that Lord John will obtain much credit for his clap-trap expressions of sympathy. While on this subject we may observe, that on Wednesday evening next there will be a gathering of the friends of complete suffrage at the Crown and Anchor tavern, at which many distinguished advocates of the cause are likely to be present. We need hardly advise such of our friends, as have it in their power, to be present on the occasion.

The Great Western has arrived from America, bringing with it intelligence of the feeling created by the arrival, in New York, of the last mail from England, which took out the parliamentary declarations of the British government in relation to Oregon. The swaggering of our transatlantic brethren rapidly subsided into a more moderate tone. We suppose the affair will be amicably arranged. As to Texas, annexation seems to be less earnestly desired by her than by the United States. It is probable that the overreaching policy of American statesmen will insure the failure of their schemes, and that the independence of Texas may be confirmed and established all the sooner, in consequence of the indecent haste with which the United States' Congress attempted to merge and to destroy it.

THE MODERN SUBSTITUTE FOR JUSTICE.

THE complement of ministerial policy in regard to Ireland, of which policy the Maynooth Endowment bill forms no inconsiderable a section, was submitted to the notice of parliament by Sir James Graham, on Friday evening last. We have given an outline of the measure in another place. That it met with a hearty welcome from the House of Commons is not surprising. That assembly, perhaps more than any other in the kingdom, is governed by cant; and, for the last year or two, anything, however monstrous, in the shape of education, patronised, paid for, and controlled by the state, has secured the favour of all parties. In this direction, indeed, they are said to be greatly ahead of the country—a servile tribute of admiration, grounded upon the well-known fact that our rulers, unable now, as formerly, to accomplish their class purposes by force of arms, and convinced at last that either they must master education or education will master them, have laid their unhallowed hands upon the ark of a people's liberty, and are now intent upon making its awful powers subservient to their own designs. The national mind has grown up too independent of aristocratic authority; and the few far-seeing legislators whose business it is to hook some plausible theory in the nose of an unthinking majority, are attempting, amidst the acclamations of men who fancy themselves to be the cream of liberality, to do with secular education, as they have already done with religion—mount its back, and make it draw an unsuspecting people to the confines of despotism.

We ask our readers, before making up their minds upon the character of this measure, to give a fair and candid consideration to the remarks which follow. Education is very far from being in the list of those things which we are disposed to undervalue. We fully appreciate its worth as an agent of civilisation, refinement, and social and political union. We will not deny that efficient academical institutions may do something to improve the condition of Ireland. We will waive, for

the present, the insuperable objection we entertain to the subjection, in any degree, of so important and delicate a matter, as the formation of the minds and habits of youth, to the power of the civil magistrate. Without entering into speculative and controverted points, we are anxious to view the proposal of government in the light merely of English common sense—to look at the evil which requires to be met—to show that this class of means not only does *not* meet it, but is intended to evade it—to point out that, whilst by methods akin to that under consideration, Ireland may be induced to submit for some time longer to patrician tyranny, the real and terrible woes which Ireland has to endure will, as far as they affect the mass of the population, be aggravated rather than diminished.

What, then, is the evil under which Ireland groans? How may her disease be most correctly described? Take her ten millions of people—glance at their national character—their industry, their sobriety, their frugality, their mental vivacity, their social morality, their cheerfulness, kindness, and patient endurance of wrong; look at the soil which they occupy, at its rich capabilities, at its marvelous physical advantages, at the glorious streams which water it, and the unrivaled estuaries which indent it: how comes it that such a people, with such an inheritance, are the poorest and the most miserable on the face of the earth? Why, we venture to affirm that no man, even though he might be smitten with a perfect frenzy for speculation, ever traced up the result to the want of academical institutions for the Irish middle classes. All parties are agreed that the wretched poverty and the consequent discontent of Ireland, are attributable to centuries of misgovernment—of misgovernment, too, which has paralysed the arm of labour by depriving it of its fair reward. An alien church establishment, an absentee proprietary of land, laws placing tenants at the mercy of their landlords, inadequate representation in parliament, an Orange magistracy, and, for the most part, a judicial bench of ultra-protestant politics—these are the main evils which, by the agency of British regiments, and swarms of armed police, keep Ireland in a state of perpetual irritation. Hence her undrained bogs—hence her spirit-broken peasantry! Enterprise sows none of the seeds of national greatness in the sister isle, because whatever appears above the surface is instantly eaten up by the absent lords of the soil, or by foreign placemen. And this is the evil with which patriotic statesmanship should resolutely essay to grapple. To raise up a numerous and powerful middle class by equal-handed legislation and impartial justice, and by this means to beget a spirit of enterprise, and insure the introduction and employment of capital, is what the present condition of the kingdom imperatively demands.

Now, it may be a good thing, in itself considered, that the children of that portion of the Irish gentry which is not included in the established church, should possess free access to efficient collegiate instruction in the dead languages, the exact sciences, and natural philosophy; and it will, no doubt, be a pleasant thing to have this furnished to them at our expense; but it remains to be seen how this advantage will remedy Ireland's wrongs. We will not say that academical institutions are not wanted in that country; but we do say that they are the very last thing which the Irish people require. The measure is wholly a middle-class measure. It was not called for—it was not thought of as desirable—it will do but little to improve the condition of the few for whom it is intended—and it leaves the immense mass of the population just where it was. It has, however, an outward air of generosity towards Ireland, and it suits the present temper of parliament. Without inquiry, therefore, as to the proportion of such members of the middle class as may be able to avail themselves of the offered boon, or as to the present state of education amongst them—in the absence of all evidence, and in utter indifference to facts—our legislators offer, in the fashionable shape, another costly bribe to Ireland, to sit still under aristocratic oppression.

And this, spite of all professions to the contrary, must be regarded as the real character of the measure. It is a substitute for justice—it is making Englishmen pay for the retention, by absentee landlordism and sinecure ecclesiasticism, of their unjust gains. It is designed to operate upon the Irish middle classes, as the Maynooth bill upon the priests—detach them from all sympathy with the poor. All the professors in the proposed academical institutions are to be nominated by the Crown, and will, of course, be pervaded by a spirit of conservatism. The influence which this will have upon the minds of youth is altogether incalculable. Breathing an atmosphere of aristocratic conventionality in early life, and moulded into a settled conviction that respectability never allies itself with aught essentially democratic, they will ripen into an intermediate caste between the wealthy and the poor, and the weight of their influence will naturally be cast into the scale of the former. Then, farewell, for ever, all chance of redress for the suffering masses! Farewell, the

power of moral agitation! Left without guidance, the millions will either succumb to a lot which they see to be inevitable, or will break out into physical violence, in despair of any milder remedy. Poor Ireland! ever destined to be betrayed under cover of doing her justice!

SELECTIONS FROM THE PRESS.

MR FORBES MACKENZIE.
(From the *Examiner*.)

MR FORBES MACKENZIE has been re-elected for Peebles-shire, and with a new grace in the explanation, that he had always voted against the Maynooth grant as too small, and that he supported it immediately that it was made large enough to meet his secret views.

It was not, perhaps, merely that the vote was too small, but also that Mr Forbes Mackenzie was too small. He saw the grant growing, and took his opportunity of growing great with it.

A little Maynooth was a dangerous thing in Mr Mackenzie's enlarged view; and he was for drinking deep or tasting not of the treasury spring.

It is thought odd that Mr Mackenzie never told his love of a liberal grant; that he never whispered the nature of his objection or of his desires. He says he communicated it to his friends, but no one knows who they are, and in present circumstances they are naturally ashamed to avow themselves.

On consideration, we are not sorry for the re-election of Mr Forbes Mackenzie. Sir Robert Peel delights to honour him, and let him reflect his peculiar honour on Sir Robert Peel. They are kindred souls. They have both the same feelings of honour, honesty, and consistency. Their words are now in the same credit with the public. Such a man cannot be permitted to remain long in a subordinate place at the Treasury board. We look for his rapid promotion in the ministry. To the "organised hypocrisy" there could not be a choicer addition.

The decadence of military conduct was said to be traced in Rome from the first reward of the messenger of victory. Are we to interpret as the sign of the decay or advance of morality the first reward of a signal falsehood. Is it because a thing of such baseness is so rare and so welcome to the Premier, or is it that Sir Robert Peel is raising a new standard of conduct, and delighting to honour the character that the honesty of the community has hitherto revolted against with disgust the most profound?

NO MONOPOLY!

(From the *Leeds Times*.)

Those members of parliament who vote for free trade in merchandise, but for monopoly in religion, seem to us to be guilty of a very gross inconsistency. And if it were not that consistency is a thing almost unknown in the "honourable House," we should even say that it was a startling inconsistency. But "startling" assuredly it is not; for gross inconsistency seems to be one of the "standing orders" of the House of Commons.

Mr Cobden and the rest of these "free traders" profess to be violently shocked at the tax imposed by government on the food of the people; but Mr Cobden and the rest of the "free traders" both vote and speak in favour of a tax upon the people of all religions, for the exclusive benefit of a single sect!

The free traders denounce as "robbery" the protection of corn; but they directly aid and abet a measure which is neither more nor less than "robbery for conscience sake!"

They protest that government has no right to interfere with the importation of human food; but they help government to interfere with a far more sacred thing—the maintenance of religious worship!

They cry, "Down with the bonded warehouses!" but they vote money for the erection of exclusive religious colleges! They protest against being robbed on account of food; but they help to rob us on account of religion! They will not hear of bounties on the exportation of corn; but they unite in granting a bounty on the increase of Catholic priests.

We might enlarge upon this point; but we are saved the necessity of doing so, by an extract, which we subjoin, from an exceedingly able article in the last number of the *British Quarterly Review*—

"One word (says the reviewer) to our free-trade representatives. In these kingdoms, where we may now, perhaps, say that a majority of the subjects of the crown have no connexion with our established churches, endowment cannot come to a part at the cost of the whole, without operating in the manner of a vicious protection in other things—deteriorating the article, and doing injury to the parties whom it is meant to serve. We have given some proof, in this number, that we are not indifferent to cheap bread, cheap sugar, and cheap timber—but there are things which we value much more highly than such things, and these are, a right moral feeling in political matters, and a just reverence of religious principle wherever it exists. Every free trader, who has voted in favour of the measure of Sir Robert Peel, has so done at the cost of that morality in respect to religion which he holds to be imperative in respect to much meaner things. Such voters and orators should remember that men are not likely to feel less displeased in having their purse assailed to support monopolies in religion, than when the same demand is made upon them to uphold private interests at the cost of the public interest in other forms; and should the free trader, who can so far forget his principles as to allow his name to appear among the upholders of such a policy as that which we now censure, account what he has done a small matter, we can assure him that there are men who are likely to form a different estimate of his conduct."

ELECTRIC TELEGRAPH.—We understand that it is the intention of government, in conjunction with the Chester and Holyhead Railway company, to have the electric telegraph established on that important line, reaching from London to Holyhead, a distance of between 200 and 300 miles, and embracing in its route the commercial capitals of Liverpool, Manchester, and Birmingham. The success of the apparatus in the service of the South-western and the Admiralty, between London and Portsmouth, 88 miles, is said to be the superinducing cause of its proposed establishment on the Chester and Holyhead line.—*Morning Chronicle*.

The Complete Suffrage Movement.

Birmingham, May 5, 1845.

THE annual general meeting of the members and friends of the National Complete Suffrage Union was held at the rooms, 37, Waterloo street, here, this evening.

The CHAIRMAN, in opening the business, said, that although, during the last year, the suffrage movement had not made much noise, he believed that the principles which the Union sought to promulgate, had never before made a more rapid or encouraging progress in the public mind; and he felt convinced, that although the Council of the Union had at present little else to do than to watch the state of public feeling, the time was not far distant when the friends of political freedom would be called upon to vigorous action; and then it would be found that the cause of liberty was further advanced than many of its friends at that moment were willing to believe.

The SECRETARY then read the report, which entered minutely into the transactions of the Council during the year.

THIRD ANNUAL REPORT OF THE COUNCIL OF THE NATIONAL COMPLETE SUFFRAGE UNION.

IN the report of our proceedings for the past year, we have, in the first place, to state that our attention was called early in May to the new act of parliament affecting the registration of parliamentary electors; and as there appeared to be ground to expect that tenantry paying four shillings a week rent—change of residence during the year being no disqualification—might be put upon the roll, and legally entitled to vote, we strongly recommended that an effort should be made to enfranchise all who were thus qualified, protesting at the same time against a property qualification, however extensive, as arbitrary and unjust. About two thousand claims were lodged chiefly by the working men in Birmingham alone; but we regret to add that so many legal obstacles were thrown in the way, that nearly all these claims were for the time defeated; and we understand that a similar result attended the efforts made to obtain the same end in several other parts of the kingdom—thus adding another proof of how hopeless it is to think of obtaining a democratic constituency by means of our present electoral machinery, and of the correctness of the opinion that the main hope of the people lies in their being able to carry out in parliament the constitutional principle, that "redress of grievances should precede the voting of supplies."

In June we addressed the people of Ireland, strongly urging them to adhere to the principles of peace in the then alarming condition of that country.

An unexpected vacancy having occurred in the representation of Birmingham, we issued an address to the electors, calling on them to vote only for the candidate who pledges himself to seek the full, fair, and free representation of the people; and, as a means to obtain that end, would be ready to support the principle, that "the grievances of the people should be heard and redressed before the supplies are voted." A public meeting, held in the Town hall, having resolved unanimously to invite Mr Joseph Sturge to become a candidate, and he considering it to be his duty to comply with this call of his fellow-townsmen, which was also confirmed at the nomination, went through the poll. On the result of that election we need not now dwell: suffice it to say, that we view it as a subject of deep regret, that so few of the electors sympathised with the non-electors; but the fact may be valuable as evidence of the growing conservatism of a large portion of them, who, calling themselves "reformers" and "liberals"—having obtained the franchise—have no desire that it should be extended to others who have it not; thus further illustrating the injustice and impolicy of conferring exclusive power on any one class of society, instead of extending the franchise to every male citizen of twenty-one.

In August our attention was called to the subject of the municipal elections, when an address was issued, strongly recommending that candidates only should be returned to the town councils who would recognise the right of man, as man, to possess the elective franchise, being otherwise properly qualified for the duties which the office involves. This subject was again urged on the consideration of the people in September.

Early in October the Council took into consideration the fact that the Repeal Association in Ireland had recommended the principle of household instead of manhood suffrage, to which, according to an address to the Complete Suffrage Union, published in 1842, they stood pledged. We addressed the people of Ireland, urging them to adhere to the principle of manhood suffrage in all its integrity, at the same time guarding ourselves against giving any opinion on the subject of repeal—a question which did not come within our province as a body.

In the month of November an invitation was received by our Chairman, from the Council of the Edinburgh Complete Suffrage Union, to meet Mr W. S. Crawford, M.P., in that city, principally with a view to the consideration of some practical questions of great importance. Having accepted the invitation, he met our Edinburgh friends in the first week of November; and, although the absence of Mr Crawford, in consequence of severe family affliction, was much felt, a conference was held, and a series of resolutions discussed, having for their object a new and decided course of action at parliamentary elections. Realising the constitutional and common-sense meaning of the practice which now prevails, of taking a show of hands at the nomination of candidates, the conference deemed it highly desirable that some plan should be adopted, whereby the candidates who are really the choice of the majority of male adults in the district, and generally in the kingdom at large, should be carried through the poll. The resolutions in question suggested, and in part detailed, such a plan, and it was unanimously resolved that they should be put into our hands, with a request that such steps might be taken in respect to them as might be considered advisable. The Executive Committee, in consideration of the great importance of the subject, called a special meeting of the members of the Council in Birmingham, who unanimously adopted the principle, and appointed a committee to consider it in detail, and report to an early meeting. The sub-committee went fully into the subject, recommended that the Executive Committee

should adopt the resolutions, and call a general meeting of the Council to sanction them, if approved. This was done, and, at the quarterly meeting of the members of the Union resident in Birmingham, held on the 17th of February, the adoption of the resolutions was confirmed. The following are the resolutions:—

"That a time like the present, when the country is free from political excitement, is peculiarly favourable for the friends of social, religious, and commercial equality, maturely to consider and unite on some well-defined plan, which they will be prepared to carry out at future parliamentary elections.

"That the principles of Christian equity clearly entitle every man, irrespective of property, to an equal right with every other man to the elective franchise.

"That the British constitution declares that 'no subject of England can be constrained to pay any aids or taxes, even for the defence of the realm, or the support of the government, but such as are imposed by his own consent, or that of his representatives in parliament.'

"That this principle is also recognised on the day of nomination, when the returning officer decides in favour of the candidate whom the majority of the people select; but against this decision a poll is generally demanded, and a small majority exercise a power to reverse it, in virtue of a property qualification, which the law unjustly requires.

"That this Council are of the judgment that no man, holding the principles of equal rights, should exercise an exclusive privilege, which the law has unjustly conferred upon him, by voting against the candidate selected by the people, provided the opinion of the majority has been clearly and distinctly ascertained; though an elector may be perfectly justified in withholding his vote from a candidate whom he cannot conscientiously support, however great the majority might be in his favour.

"That to carry out this principle, it is recommended that some practical plan should be adopted, and such constitutional machinery erected in connexion therewith, as the circumstances of each case might require; and without dictating the precise course to be acted on in the respective districts, the following is earnestly proposed:—

"That committees be formed by the inhabitants in every constituency, composed of electors and non-electors. That the duties of such committees be to make a complete register of the whole male adults within the district; to give all such a card, with their name, number, and the stated place and mode of voting inscribed thereon; to select fitting candidates, propose them at a public meeting (whose decision should be final, except where a poll is demanded, in which case it would be the duty of the said committee to take immediate measures for ascertaining the opinion of the majority of the people, which should be ascertained by ballot), and carry such as are thus chosen through the legal poll.

"That when the choice of the people is nullified or disregarded by the electors, the House of Commons be petitioned to withhold all grants of monies until the constitutional representatives of the people be permitted to take their seats in that House. That, in order to carry out this plan, subscriptions be raised by the friends of civil, religious, and commercial freedom, to meet the necessary expenses in their different localities."

In order that the subject should be brought fully under the notice of the friends of complete suffrage in various parts of the country, we caused the resolutions to be extensively circulated, in the hope that they may be acted upon at no distant period.

Since the publication of these resolutions, our duty has been rather to watch the progress of events than take any active part in connexion with them. We regret the public mind is in a great measure indifferent in regard to the great subject of the representation, though it be the foundation of nearly all the grievances which at present engross public attention.

As respects the future, we have in immediate prospect a series of resolutions by Lord John Russell, which, it appears to us, may be considered as a political manifesto of the opinions and intentions of the so-called reform party, of which he is the acknowledged leader. These resolutions are alike vague and indefinite; and although professing to be for the amelioration of the condition of the labouring classes, and make no reference to the state of the representation, this defect Mr Sharman Crawford has ably proposed to meet, by moving that the first resolution, which, in its present shape, asserts that the present is a good time to consider the state of public affairs, should be altered so as to stand thus:—

"That the present state of political tranquillity, and the recent revival of trade, afford to this House a favourable opportunity to give immediate attention to the claims so repeatedly urged in the petitions of the people, for the extension of the parliamentary suffrage, as well as to consider of such measures as may tend permanently to improve the condition of the labouring classes."

We have strongly recommended the friends of equal rights throughout the kingdom to support the proposal of the member for Rochdale, whose constant watchfulness and tried honesty, as a true friend of the people's rights, entitle him to the continued confidence of every real friend of the country.

In conclusion, we are not discouraged by the present apathetic condition of the public mind on mostly all the great political questions of the present day. While we sincerely regret that a more lively watchfulness of the conduct of our rulers is not manifested by the community, we rejoice in their present contentment, affording, as it does, a living evidence that, under such a system of representation and administration of government as would secure a prosperous condition of trade, the people would be peaceful and contented. Under the present system of representation, however, nothing like permanent prosperity can be anticipated; and we despair of seeing any great and permanent improvement in the condition of the people, until they are fully, fairly, and freely represented in parliament.

The meeting unanimously adopted the report—several members making a few appropriate remarks on the subject of its contents.

The meeting next adopted a petition to parliament in favour of the amendment of Mr W. S. Crawford on the resolution proposed to be moved by Lord John Russell, on the 26th instant, and resolved that Mr Crawford be requested to present it. The meeting expressed its grateful sense of the tact and vigilance

which the honourable member for Rochdale had shown on this, as he does on every other occasion.

A vote of thanks to the President and Council was then cordially passed, and the meeting, which was composed chiefly of working men, separated.

The Council of the National Complete Suffrage Union met, at Birmingham, on Monday.

The SECRETARY reported the minutes of the third annual general meeting, held on the 5th inst, and produced a petition in favour of Mr W. S. Crawford's resolutions, to be moved on the 26th, when the original resolutions of Lord John Russell brought before the House of Commons, are to be submitted for consideration: and stated that he had brought the subject under the notice of the friends of equal rights in various parts of the country. The Council thereupon

"Resolved—That the friends of complete suffrage throughout the kingdom be earnestly requested to support Mr Crawford, by petitions in favour of the proposal, and memorials to members of parliament urging them to support it."

The following, being the petition passed by the Complete Suffrage Union, is respectfully recommended as a form, the most likely to meet the present case; and the Secretary was instructed to bring it under the notice of those associations and boroughs now in a condition to petition at once:—

"To the House of Commons of Great Britain and Ireland, in Parliament assembled,

"The Petition of the National Complete Suffrage Union Sheweth—

"That your petitioners have had their attention called to a series of resolutions intended to be proposed, for the adoption of the House of Commons, on the 26th inst, by Lord John Russell.

"That, in the judgment of your petitioners, these resolutions are, in several respects, objectionable and defective, but more particularly—

"First—Because, while they assume that the country is in a comparatively prosperous and contented condition, they do not call upon parliament to avail itself of the facilities which the favourable state of the public mind thus affords for taking into consideration the state of the representation, with a view to the extension of the franchise, as petitioned for by upwards of three and a half million of British subjects, to every male citizen of twenty-one.

"Second—Inasmuch as the said resolutions do not proceed on the acknowledged fact, that, under just and equal laws, this country would support three times its present population in comfort and abundance, but propose to institute a new system of emigration, or colonisation at the public expense. In the judgment of your petitioners, the superabundance of labour, which is so frequently to be found in the markets of this country, and the consequent depressed condition of the working classes, are occasioned by the operation of bad laws, not from over population; and hence it follows, that the only effectual remedy for these and such like evils is to be found in the abolition, not only of the monopoly of food, but the monopoly of legislation.

"Your petitioners have also observed a notice placed on the votes of your House, of an amendment to be moved by the member for Rochdale on the first of the resolutions, with a view of pledging your House to an immediate consideration of the extension of the parliamentary suffrage, and also to omit certain others of the said resolutions. Your petitioners respectfully represent to your House that the question of the extension of the franchise, and an effectual reform in the representation of the people, is the most pressing and important subject which can engage your attention; and, therefore, your petitioners entreat that you will adopt the said amendment, to be proposed on the first of the said resolutions, and that you will reject the fourth, fifth, sixth, and eighth, of the said proposed resolutions, as implying an assent to systems of government which your petitioners do not consider consistent with the true interests of the people.

"And your petitioners will ever pray, &c."

PREPARATIONS FOR A NEW ELECTION.—The committee elected at the public meeting held last July, to look out for candidates holding the principles of complete suffrage, separation of church and state, and free trade—held a meeting in Johnstone's Coffee room, Edinburgh, on Thursday—Councillor Cruickshank in the chair. Office bearers were elected, and preparations made for the committee to move in the event of an election.—*Edinburgh Chron.*

METROPOLITAN.

THE ANTI-CORN-LAW BAZAAR.

The Anti-corn-law Bazaar was opened on Thursday morning, in the Theatre Royal, Covent Garden, the interior of which has been entirely remodelled for the purpose. The entrance for visitors is the box entrance in Bow street. The tickets are taken at the usual place on the staircase, and the visitor proceeds up stairs to the Shakespeare saloon. This saloon is fitted up for the exhibition of tapestry, shawls, and carpets. Here, also, is one of the most magnificent mirrors ever seen—a contribution to the bazaar, and which is for sale. The price marked on it is 200 guineas.

Passing through the box-lobby of the dress circle, we reach the entrance to the Great Bazaar hall, which is through the centre box of the dress circle. The effect of the *coup d'œil* from the back of this box, is grand and effective in the extreme. The pit has been boarded over, and the whole extent of the theatre, which has been fitted up as a grand Gothic hall, bursts at once upon the sight. The decorations are of the most gorgeous character, and we have never seen anything at all equal to the pictorial and artistic effect of this very superb Gothic hall. The roof is illuminated in imitation of richly stained glass. The ceiling is decorated with the most elaborately carved Gothic mouldings and richly decorated arches, while at the extreme end of the hall is seen a gorgeous Gothic window of painted glass, leading up to which from the entrance are two vistas of pillars.

Descending a flight of steps, through the centre box, we find ourselves in the body of the hall. Here a label, "Forward," with a hand pointing to the right, directs us on our course, past the Northampton stall, on which are displayed shoes, and other articles of the manufacture of Northamptonshire, and through a double row of stalls, extending the greater part of the length of the hall to the Proscenium. On the right, between the pillars, are the stalls of Halifax, Leeds, Bradford, and other places in Yorkshire, where are displayed specimens of the staple manufactures of those places; and on the left, opposite these—occupying the right centre of the hall—are the stalls of Bolton, Stockport, Swansea, Carlisle, York, Stockton, Hull, Beverley, Bristol, and Newcastle. These stalls are principally occupied by elegant fancy work, the contributions of ladies. The stalls are arranged somewhat differently on the stage, as greater width has been obtained. Here on the right we have the stalls of Huddersfield, Paisley, Wakefield, and a complete series of metropolitan stalls, almost every district of the capital having furnished contributions sufficient to entitle it to the distinction of a separate stall.

The old refreshment room, at the back of the stage, has been fitted up as what would have been in former days called "a chamber of dials," and is illuminated by a superb Gothic window of richly stained glass. On the right is the book stall, opposite to this is the post-office, and at the back, and extending between the two, is the refreshment stall. Here is exhibited an enormous cake, the weight of which is 280lbs., a contribution from Bury, Lancashire. The diameter of this cake cannot be less than five feet, and the iced surface is tastefully adorned with scrolls containing free-trade mottoes.

Passing the post office, we again enter the stage portion of the hall, and here are, answering to the metropolitan stalls on the other side, three stalls appropriated to Manchester. Nothing can exceed the beauty and the elegance of the fancy work, paintings, &c., contributed by the ladies of Manchester to these stalls. Among other contributions, there are two which cannot fail to attract the attention of the lady visitors to the bazaar—in the one is a beautiful model of the royal cot, and the other a doll's bed and bedstead. This latter is a most elegant and elaborately finished model. In the recess are the stalls of Gloucester, Norwich, Exeter, Dudley, Warrington, Preston, and Lancaster; and opposite the Manchester stalls, are those of Liverpool, Stalybridge, Ashton, Bury, and Blackburn. We now re-enter the grand Gothic hall, on the opposite side to that by which we had originally entered, and proceed from the proscenium end of the hall, towards the entrance. The centre range of stalls are occupied by the Nottingham, Leicester, Derby, Coventry, Birmingham, and Wolverhampton. The stalls opposite these, between the pillars, are assigned to Scotland—Dundee, Edinburgh, Glasgow, and Paisley, have each stalls. The Paisley stall is exceedingly superb, being literally hung with shawls of the richest patterns and most exquisite fabric. We now leave the hall, through the centre of the dress circle, by a place of exit running parallel to, but having no communication with, the place of entrance. The stalls in the boxes next this place of exit are devoted to Shetland, Dunstable, and Luton. Passing through the lobby, we find ourselves in the saloon attached to the upper tier of boxes. This is devoted to the exhibition of metallic manufactures. We have here specimens of iron in every stage of its progress, from the ore as dug from the mine, up to the most finely executed specimens of steel work from Colebrookdale and Sheffield. Here are also to be seen contributions of china and earthenware from the potteries. Ascending the saloon staircase, we enter the upper boxes, and from thence take a last glimpse at the Gothic hall, crowded as it now is in every part. It is from this point that the admirable nature of the arrangements made for preventing confusion became apparent. Here we have a bird's eye view of the bazaar, and can observe the continuous course of the stream of visitors, and how impossible it is that anything like inconvenience can arise, be the hall ever so crowded. In the lobby are sacks of wheat and various agricultural contributions. From this lobby we descend by a winding staircase, which conducts us to the hall in Princes place, by which we leave the theatre. The committee have given directions that the visitors shall on no account be allowed to retrace their steps through the house, as the crossing of crowds in contrary directions would inevitably produce confusion. The tour of the bazaar is completed in about an hour and a half. This is the first attempt at anything like an *exposition des arts et des metiers* in this country. The governments of the continent, to encourage the ingenuity of their subjects, have such an exposition every three years. That which the government has neglected to do here, the energy, enterprise, and assiduity of the men of the Anti-corn-law League has done for us, and done it infinitely better, in all probability, than it would have been done by the government.

On the first day the hall soon became crowded, with ladies and gentlemen from London and all parts of the kingdom. Among them we saw several members of parliament, distinguished free traders, ministers of religion, and philanthropists. There was a powerful gathering of the friends of free trade; but the spectators appeared to embrace all parties and classes; and all seemed equally pleased with the exhibition.

In the court of Queen's Bench, on Wednesday, Mr Fitroy Kelly obtained a rule to show cause why a *mandamus* should not issue directed to the Chancellor, masters, and scholars of the University of Oxford, to command them to restore Mr William George Ward, late a fellow of Balliol college, to the degrees of Bachelor of Arts and Master of Arts in

the university, of which degrees he had been deprived by the House of Convocation.

The third report of the Metropolitan Improvement commission recommends the formation of a wide street, similar to Regent street, between the houses of parliament and the district of Pimlico.

PROVINCIAL.

REPRESENTATION OF SOUTH LANCASHIRE.—Lord Francis Egerton, in a letter to the editor of the *Manchester Courier*, has announced his intention of retiring from the representation of the southern division of Lancashire. The alleged grounds on which the noble lord retires are, the state of his health, which, he says, incapacitates him for the public service, and the loss of the confidence of a great portion of his constituents, in consequence of his conduct on the Maynooth question. "It is very possible," he says, "that, not on this matter of Maynooth alone, such disclosure of my views as an ensuing nomination would require, would be sufficient to procure my exclusion from the representation of South Lancashire; but I shall not enjoy as a candidate the opportunity of putting that question to the issue, or afford it to others." It is, however, said, that the noble lord will be shortly called to the House of Lords. The Tory party have already taken the field. A meeting was held at Newtown on Saturday, at which it was determined to bring forward an anti-Maynooth candidate in the Tory interest. The select few seemed greatly disappointed at not having Sir Thomas Brancker and Mr James Aspinall among them, and they exhibited as lugubrious a set of countenances as it is possible to imagine. On all hands it is admitted that Sir Robert Peel's measure has shaken the party to its centre, and dispersed the seeds of mistrust far and wide.

DEATH OF THE DEAN OF WELLS.—The Dean of Wells died a curious death the other evening. He found two lads sporting on the grass near his residence, and ordered them to desist. No attention being paid to his commands, he seized on one of the offenders, and gave him a shaking; when, being seized with a fit, the very reverend dean dropped down, and shortly afterwards died. His remains were carried home on a shutter.

DENBIGHSHIRE ELECTION.—Sir Watkin Williams Wynn, who had vacated his seat for Denbighshire by accepting an honorary office under the Crown, the stewardship of the hundreds of Yale and Blomfield, was proposed for re-election at the Shire hall, on Wednesday. He was obliged to undergo lectures—from a free trader, for opposing repeal of the corn laws; from an agriculturist, for betraying the farmers; from a third elector, for supporting the Maynooth grant; and from a fourth, for having supported a government which had betrayed his constituents as farmers, robbed them as churchmen, and insulted them as Protestants. There was, however, no opposition, and he was declared duly elected.

On Thursday evening, Douglas Jerrold, the celebrated writer, presided at a *conversazione*, at the Polytechnic institution, Birmingham. He was most enthusiastically received, and in fact overpowered by the warmth of his reception.

IRELAND.

Alderman Keshan, a repealer, has been elected Lord Mayor of Dublin for the ensuing civic year.

REPEAL DEMONSTRATION ON THE 30TH OF MAY.—The anniversary of the imprisonment of the "Repeal Martyrs," is to be celebrated in the metropolis, and under the eyes of the Executive, by a monster demonstration, the precise details of which are as yet in embryo; but whatever shape they may assume, there is no doubt that they will further indicate the rapid inroads "conciliation," with its attendant sops of Maynooth grants, provincial colleges, and Connaught railway bills, has made upon the sensitively grateful hearts of the Irish agitators. Nor is it to the capital alone that a revival of the display of physical force is to be limited. Similar manifestations of national "gratitude" for favours conferred will simultaneously take place in the counties of Cork and Meath; and, provided the authorities remain passive—and no one expects a contrary course—"Tara of the Hills" will again witness an assemblage of half-a-million of repealers, the celebration of mass in the open air, the procession and prayers round the "Croppies' grave," and all other stimulants so adroitly applied in 1843—*Times*.

THE PROPOSED CALL OF THE HOUSE.—"The Dublin Freeman's Journal" of Thursday states on authority, that "should a call of the House be ordered, it will be disobeyed, and that O'Connell, O'Brien, John O'Connell, Dillon Browne, Grattan, and the other representatives of the people, who labour in the national cause, will treat the threat of Mr Hume and the call of the speaker with equal indifference. When these men came to the resolve of serving Ireland in Ireland, they counted the cost and accepted all the difficulties of their choice. At present the interests of Ireland demand their presence here, and here they have determined to remain till duty shall call them elsewhere." It is further said that at a meeting of the committee of the association on Thursday, a notable discovery was made by some of the "lawyers," to the effect, that as no provision was made in the acts incorporating the two parliaments whereby the Speaker would be empowered to arrest members not residing in England, Mr O'Connell and his associates were quite safe in adopting the policy of "passive resistance."

MUNICIPAL REFORM.—On Friday a meeting of the Dublin corporation, on the requisition of Mr Alderman O'Connell, was held to petition the House of Commons, praying that the municipal institutions of Ireland be placed upon the same footing as those of England. This was adopted in consequence of

Sir R. Peel's announcement to introduce a municipal reform bill for Ireland. After a long discussion, in which Mr O'Connell explained his views, the petition was adopted.

A great number of savage outrages are recorded by the Irish papers, mostly perpetrated by "Molly Maguire's" men; including four murders of the vindictive class, and an attempt to burn a cottage with a poor widow and her children, whom the incendiaries locked in.

SCOTLAND.

PEEBLES-SHIRE ELECTION.—Mr Forbes Mackenzie has been elected without opposition. Sir George Grant Suttie declined to be put in nomination; and Mr Carmichael, younger, of Skirling, who was only defeated at last election by a bare majority of one, being absent on the Continent, no candidate could be found in the emergency to give the electors of Peebles-shire an opportunity of recording their votes against one of the most shameful cases of renegadism which has occurred in modern times. Mr Mackenzie, however, has not escaped "scot free." His delinquency was well exposed on the hustings by Mr Maurice Lothian, and the salutations he met with from the assembled people must have been anything but agreeable to his ears. His own appearance on the hustings, and the pleas he has advanced in justification of his conduct, only expose the badness of his cause, and increase, if possible, the enormity of his political prostitution. The world never witnessed a lamer and more brazen-faced attempt at self-defence than the people of Peebles saw and heard on Monday, when Forbes Mackenzie said that "he had always voted against the small grant to Maynooth, because he thought it was too small." Why, if a criminal made such a defence before any civil court in the country, we would find his judges doubling his punishment, on the ground of the wickedness and dishonesty of his plea. We cannot in justice close these passing remarks, without asking what hope there is of securing the ascendancy of right principles in the legislature, so long as the representative system is so corrupt and imperfect as to permit such men as this Forbes Mackenzie, by mere dint of their landed possessions, to ride roughshod over the united wishes and principles of the people?—*Scottish Herald*.

Mr WILLIAM LOGAN, city missionary, of Glasgow, (late of Leeds), was presented, on the 1st instant, with a patent lever gold watch and appendages, as a token of respect for his unwearied exertions in the cause of religion and morality. A public meeting was held on the occasion, over which W. P. Paton, Esq., presided. The chairman mentioned that Mr Logan had accepted the invitation of John Bright, Esq., M.P., to go and labour as a missionary in Rochdale. Mr Rae detailed Mr Logan's multifarious labours as a missionary in Glasgow, and his efforts to reclaim the profligate and unfortunate. He remarked that, whether the unfortunate wretch has been necessitated by disease to take up his abode within the walls of an hospital or infirmary, or the iron hand of poverty and distress has forced him to become the inmate of a poor-house, or whether, by a course of dissipation and crime, he has been led to violate the laws of his country, and, in consequence, been immured within the walls of a dungeon, he has ever found in Mr Logan a warm and devoted friend, one who is anxious to alleviate his distress, and to afford that counsel and advice which, if properly followed, may prevent the recurrence of similar disasters.

On Wednesday her Majesty held a levee at St James's palace, which was numerously attended.

On Thursday, Prince Albert attended the festival of the sons of the clergy, at St Paul's, and dined with the merchant tailors.

THE QUEEN AND PRINCE ALBERT, with a small retinue, departed on Saturday, on a visit to their new residence on the Isle of Wight. They reached the Vauxhall station of the South-western railway, at 2 o'clock, where a special train was in readiness to convey them to Gosport. On their arrival they embarked on board the Lightning steamer for Cowes, which they reached about 6 o'clock. On passing through the fleet of ships in Portsmouth harbour, the papers inform us, "her Majesty stooped and took the royal children alternately on either side of the vessel, and held them in her arms up to the view of the assembled thousands, but either the act was not understood, or sufficiently observed, to call forth the admiration of the multitude, as no additional notice was taken of the circumstance." How disappointing!

THE NEW LORD OF THE TREASURY.—We understand that it is the intention of Mr W. F. Mackenzie to oppose Sir James Graham's plan for the endowment of three colleges in Ireland, his reason for so doing being his firm conviction that six colleges are absolutely necessary in the present state of Ireland. He has not intimated his views on this subject to the right hon. baronet, but he has communicated them in strict confidence to a friend, who, he has every reason to believe, is in correspondence with ministers, from the circumstance that he sailed last Saturday on a voyage to Norfolk island, the expenses of the trip being furnished by the government.—*Times*.

IMPORTANT TO PARLIAMENTARY ELECTORS.—As many persons change their residence in the month of May—the period of the year when the new rates are generally laid—those who do so should inform the overseers or collectors of their removal, and request to be rated to the premises to which they have removed, instead of the premises that they have quitted, to prevent an objection from being sub-

stantiated, if taken to their vote on the next registration.

EXCURSION TRAINS.—London is likely to receive this week a large influx to its pleasure population, arrangements having been made for running cheap excursion trains from nearly all the great cities and towns, north, south, east, and west. The Birmingham, Great Western, South-western, Dover, and Brighton, we believe, despatch pleasure trains, for one fare each way, and the northern lines run short ones to the various localities on the route.

The Birmingham operative jewelers are about to present to the Queen several specimens of their workmanship, consisting of an armlet, a brooch, a buckle, and a pair of ear-rings. It is also intended to forward to Prince Albert a unique specimen of Birmingham manufacture, consisting of a watch-chain, seal, and key.

The Auction Duties Repeal bill received the royal assent on Thursday, and no duty is to be paid on any sale which took place since the 8th of April last.

DEPARTURE OF THE GREAT BRITAIN STEAM-SHIP.—The departure of this vessel for New York has been fixed for the 25th of July; her stay, consequently, at Blackwall cannot be much prolonged, as she must proceed round to Liverpool and take up her freight for her first voyage across the Atlantic. She is appointed to leave New York on her homeward trip, on the 28th of August.

PEEL'S MECHANICAL MEMBERS.—We understand that Sir Robert Peel intends taking out a patent for a new method of working a sort of political fantoccini, which he has applied with considerable success during the present session to the members of the House of Commons. The puppets are all got together in a line, and, by means of small revolving wheel, they are made to assume such attitudes as may be desired by the person working them. They are thrown into postures of attention, admiration, or enthusiasm, without the smallest difficulty; and as they all go upon a pivot, they can be turned round to any extent or in any direction at a moment's notice. The invention requires some skill in using it at first, but the Premier has brought it to perfection by long experience. We have no doubt the invention will be hailed as a boon by Peel's pocket majority.—*Punch*.

GEMS OF IRISH ELOQUENCE.—Mr O'Connell, at a meeting of the Repeal Association, thus spoke of the English people:—"I despise them, I hurl back in their teeth their vile, virulent, and filthy bigotry. I give to them the sole possession of their frauds, and lies, and forgeries. I say the English people have demonstrated I was right when I said there were two kinds of bigotry in England—an anti-Irish and anti-Catholic bigotry—they are both now roaring and foaming in the same channel, producing the torrent of mud that characterises the actions of the fanatics of England." Mr Steele described Lord de Grey as "that hoary-headed and bloody-minded old scamp," and spoke of the anti-repeal declaration of Mr T. B. Macaulay as a "fantastic rhapsody, embodied in a speech of minacious balderdash, which could not fail to render adamant the repeal spirit of the intensely organised millions of Ireland."

RAILWAY NOTABILIA.—The mail train which left London at 4 p. m. on Tuesday, for Manchester, accomplished the distance in five hours and a half! The journey between London and Birmingham is now regularly performed in two hours and 57 minutes, with full loads of passengers. The Eastern Counties Railway company have announced their intention of reducing their fares and increasing the speed of their trains. The project of a metropolitan railway tunnel is beginning to be seriously entertained, and a prospectus has been issued, pointing out its practicability. It is proposed that this subterranean railway should commence at Hyde Park Corner, and have intermediate stations at each chief thoroughfare, with a street frontage. A committee of the House of Commons has reported favourably "of the general merits of the atmospheric system of railways," but adds that "it feels that experience can alone determine under what circumstances of traffic or country the preference to either system should be given." Last week was one of the most prolific of the season in new projects, the prospectuses of no fewer than fourteen lines having been issued.

CATCHING A VOTE.—The London correspondent of the *Evening Mail* announces that Lord Northland voted with government on Friday night, in the discussion on the Maynooth Bill, under the following novel circumstances:—

"It was the noble lord's intention to have gone out of the House without voting at all. He remained, however, in conversation with another member until the doors were locked, and retreat was impossible. Lord Arthur Lennox (one of the Lords of the Treasury), however, in pity for the noble Viscount, hid him in a coal-cellar. According to the rules of the House all the members within the body of the House must vote, and on its being intimated to the Speaker that Lord Northland was secreting himself, the Speaker ordered the sergeant to fetch him from his lurking place, which he did amidst shouts of laughter; and then, in gratitude, no doubt, to Lord Arthur Lennox, the noble lord voted with ministers. It remains to be seen what the electors of Dungannon will say to his conduct."

CUT IT SHORT.—When Louis XIV. passed through one of his provincial towns on a visit to the country chateau of a great lord of his court, he was stopped on his journey by a mayor and deputation, who began a pompous harangue in the following words:—"Great and august sire, when the venerable Emperor Charlemagne, some centuries back, passed through our fine and ancient city"—"Stop, my good friend," said Louis, slightly touching him on the shoulder with his walking-stick:—"when the Emperor Charlemagne passed through your city, he had most probably dined; which, my good friend, I have not as yet done."

EVERYBODY'S COLUMN.

An expedition round the world, from Hamburg, is to leave that city on the 15th of August next. The route which has been chosen has been so arranged as to secure continual summer to the voyagers.

CURIOSITIES OF THE GALLOWES.—Madame Tussaud (the waxwork lady) offered £25 for Tawell's coat and trousers after he was hanged, which, before he was hanged, only cost £4 to £5.

A NATURAL DENTRIFICE.—The common strawberry is a natural dentrifice; and its juice, without any preparation, dissolves the tartareous incrustations on the teeth, and makes the breath sweet and agreeable.

In some parts of Wales, women and children are in the habit of searching for crabs, during low water; and, having found them, they dexterously take off the large claws, and set the creatures again at liberty, to reproduce them at their leisure; so that the supply is constant and the source never destroyed, or rather is always on the increase, since they are so abundant as to be hawked about the streets twenty for a penny, and the demand is great.

A ROYAL BON MOT.—When the Queen visited the Royal Academy, the fountains in Trafalgar square were forced up to an unnatural elevation of 33 feet. On her Majesty being asked what she thought of them, she merely replied that "she had no idea absurdity could be carried to such a height."—*Punch*.

In Thursday's *Morning Chronicle* there is a report of a meeting held on Wednesday evening at Portsmouth, which was transmitted by telegraph! This is the first example of the electric telegraph being used for such a purpose, and it indicates the important and numerous services which that valuable invention will soon render to the public.

VALUE OF SINGING.—I here introduce a fact which has been suggested to me by my profession, and that is, that the exercise of the organs of the breast, by singing, contributes very much to defend them against those diseases to which the climate and other causes expose them. The Germans are seldom afflicted with consumption; nor have I known more than one instance of spitting blood among them. This is, I believe, in part occasioned by the strength their lungs acquire by exercising them in vocal music, for this constitutes an essential branch of their education. The music master of our academy has furnished me with an observation still more in favour of this opinion. He informed me that he had known several instances of persons strongly disposed to consumption, who were restored to health by the exercise of their lungs in singing.—*Dr Rush*.

On the opening day of the Hungerford suspension bridge, 36,254 persons passed over it; and on Sunday, between ten in the morning and ten at night, 53,671.

A bulky book on geography, just published in Germany, gravely states that "London lies on the Serpentine river, which discharges itself into the Thames."

NOTHING LIKE LEATHER.—In the House of Lords, on Friday night, the Bishop of London said, "My Lords, I am deeply convinced the country wants new bishops!" How odd the country didn't think of this before!—*Punch*.

The total number of explosions in the Northumberland and Durham collieries, from January, 1743, to June, 1845, inclusive, was 94, attended with the loss of 1,247 lives, averaging 13 for each explosion.

An American physician attributes the deaths of several members of his family and other patients to living in newly-painted houses, the effect of which, he states, is to engender disease of the lungs.

Oxford, with five professors of Protestant theology, has, in three years, made twenty-three of her members converts to Romanism. With six medical professors, she has, in ten years, made twenty-two doctors of medicine!

A rival to Van Amburgh, in the person of a Mr White, has lately arrived in England. He is accompanied by a numerous assortment of lions, tigers, &c., which he has in complete subjection.

THE OBJECT OF EDUCATION.—The aim of education should be to teach us rather how to think than what to think—rather to improve our minds, so as to enable us to think for ourselves, than to load the memory with the thoughts of other men.—*Beattie*.

The editor of an American paper, who was a great sufferer from toothache, made the following observation, after a violent attack:—"The person who can write editorials while suffering with the toothache, could kick up his heels over the grave of hope, and snap his dying fingers in the face of time and sorrow."

TRUE CIVILISATION.—Prosecutions have already commenced against the press in Algeria. This is the strongest proof we have yet heard of the colony becoming every day more and more French.—*Punch*.

We learn, from good authority, that flax will be grown this year, more or less, in every county of England; and, it is expected, somewhat extensively in Sussex. One gentleman will sow nine acres.—*Brighton Gazette*.

So many are the projects of new railways, that the *Railway Record* has a regular heading—"The New Railway Schemes of the Week." It will be very well if this be not at some future time changed into "Railway Bankrupts' Lists."

BROUGHAM IN THE BALL ROOM.—The *Court Herald* gravely states:—"The rumour respecting the Queen's having abandoned the Polka is so far from being correct, that at the last private ball she honoured Lord Brougham with her hand, that nobleman being one of the best Polka dancers off the stage—a fact perhaps not generally known."

Literature.

THE PERIODICALS (MAY).

"THE Edinburgh Review" is excellent this quarter. It begins with a magnificent article on "Hildebrand," in which justice is done that extraordinary man, by one who evidently knows how to appreciate the "spirit and power" of that gigantic system of which he was so majestic a representative, and so mighty an agent. It is impossible to read the sketch of his plans and proceedings, presented in this able paper, without a feeling of sublime horror at a church which seeks to subordinate the civil to the sacred, and would be satisfied with nothing short of an entire and universal supremacy over all the powers of this lower world. The concluding sentences will give the scope and spirit of the narrative:—

"His acts must stand in place of such a portraiture. He found the papacy dependent on the empire: he sustained her by alliances almost commensurate with the Italian peninsula. He found the papacy electoral by the Roman people and clergy: he left it electoral by a college of papal nomination. He found the Emperor the virtual patron of the Holy See: he wrested that power from his hands. He found the secular clergy the allies and dependants of the secular power: he converted them into the inalienable auxiliaries of his own. He found the higher ecclesiastics in servitude to the temporal sovereigns: he delivered them from that yoke to subjugate them to the Roman tiara. He found the patronage of the church the mere desecrated spoil and merchandise of princes: he reduced it within the dominion of the Supreme Pontiff. He is celebrated as the reformer of the impure and profane abuses of his age: he is more justly entitled to the praise of having left the impress of his own gigantic character in the history of all the ages which have succeeded him."

The whole paper is worthy of the most serious consideration, especially in the present times. Next in order follows a correct and honest notice of "Recent Editions of Shakspeare," who might say to his commentators with even more force than Diogenes to Alexander, "Get out of my light." The "immortal bard" bears, to those who have adorned and corrected him, much the relation of a needle to a bottle of hay; and when we consider the past history and present state of his case, there appears but little reason for expecting that there will ever be an "end" of "writing" upon so prolific a subject. However, we were surprised and pleased by the article before us. It gives so much clear information, and expresses so much common sense, that, ready to salute it, as the writer expected, "with a ready verdict of inutility," we ended it with a sincere vote of thanks to the wise and able author. Besides, he is fair and just. In reviewing the deeds and claims of Collier and Knight, he steers clear of partiality. Howbeit, his judgment inclines to prefer the latter—rather, he pronounces him vastly superior to his rival.

"The value of Mr Collier's edition is great; but it is chiefly valuable as a storehouse of materials for others. On the other hand, both in plan and execution, Mr Knight's edition, as a whole, appears to us not only to be worthy of representing, in its application to Shakspeare, the improved criticism of our times, but to be singularly valuable as a suggestive and instructive text book for the study of the poets' works."

The next paper is a short one on "Oxford and Mr Ward," recommending the abolition of all tests, except those which parliament has imposed; the substitution of an engagement of conformity, for a profession of faith, or, if that should be impracticable, that no test should be required on matriculation, and no test previously to a degree, except that the candidate is a *bonâ fide* member of the church of England. The remaining papers are:—"The University and the Church in France;" "Prescott's Conquest of Mexico;" "Scottish Clerical and University Tests;" "The Claims of Labour;" and, "The Churches of the Three Kingdoms." One thing must strike our readers—the large proportion of ecclesiastical articles. It is clear that the church question is forcing itself upon men's minds—and the most supercilious and sceptical, as well as the most spiritual and superstitious, must entertain it. *Macte virtute!*

"The Quarterly Review" contains, as usual, a great many things on a great many subjects, but there is not a sheet of politics in this number. The first paper is on "Greek-and-English Lexicography," occupied with remarks on some modern lexicons, as Donnegan's, Dunbar's, Liddell's and Scott's, Giles's, Linwood's, rather than with general disquisition, though the little that is said upon the qualifications of a lexicographer might, and should, deter a vast number who now aspire to that honourable character. On "Mrs Butler's Poems" there are two pages, and of her poems seven. "Gally Knight and Bunsen" give occasion for a long and elaborate "attempt to indicate the development of ecclesiastical architecture in Western or Latin Christendom, from its normal type, the civil or judicial Basilica of the Romans, tracing the transitions which produced the ecclesiastical architecture of the middle ages, until the structure of the forum expanded into the Gothic glory of Cologne and Milan." Two-and-sixty pages are filled with matter supplied or suggested by the third and fourth volumes of the "Diaries

and Correspondence of James, First Earl of Malmesbury." "Convocation" is the significant title of a significant paper, which ends thus:—

"When our present system of parochial law was established, 'statute parishioner' and 'member of the church' were, in the eye of the law, convertible terms. Now the parishioner may have no other connexion with the church, excepting through the medium of the rate-collector; and the primary assemblies of the church are (there is no may-be in the case) always mixed with, and sometimes almost wholly composed of, her implacable enemies. It will be impossible ever to re-unite the parish to the church, unless by restricting all parochial powers, which concern the church, to communicants of the church of England—communicants, not merely nominal members. How this condition is to be reconciled with the payment of church rates we shall not here discuss; but one thing is certain, that the re-organisation of the parish vestry, upon canonical principles, is indispensable in order to enable both the clergy and the laity to know and fulfil their several privileges and duties as members of the church to which they belong."

"Miss Berry on French and English Society;" "The Improvisatore, or, Life in Italy;" "Whig Tactics;" "The French Lake"—are the titles of the other papers.

"The North British Review" is rich in solid excellence, though rather deficient in that vivacity which is so desirable, especially in a periodical. But it is not every one that can write like Macaulay. Even his productions stand out, for life and brilliancy, in the old-established "Edinburgh." The present number of our new northern friend opens with an elaborate and most entertaining review of "Eusèbe Salverte on the Occult Sciences;" sketches what has been, and what ought to be, done for "Biblical Literature in Scotland;" passes a judgment upon "Charles Dickens's Works," which contains many remarks that are worthy of the careful consideration of both moralists and Christians, though the writer sometimes shows more bravery than breadth of view, and will doubtless be accused, as he indeed suspects, of "austerity;" discusses "The Improvement of Land as an Investment for Capital," taking occasion, while so doing, to describe it as being "clear, that protection will soon be numbered among the things that have been;" presents a view of the "Progress of Tractarianism," which, both for its facts and its arguments, deserves attention, as being evidently the production of a keen and candid mind; has short papers on "Vigilantius and his Times," "Schiller," "Archbishop Sharpe;" notices instructively "Prince Polignac and the French Carlists;" and closes with a political dissertation on the "Prospects of the Country," in which Sir Robert Peel is made out to be a great free-trader, and the Maynooth bill is opposed not on the voluntary principle.

"The Eclectic Review," in common with the rest, has a dissertation upon "Mr Ward and the Oxford University." It is written in a calm and impartial spirit, but going, of course, the whole extent of a separation of the church from the state. The last few sentences will show its tone and drift:—

"There seems to be a provision in nature by which, in many cases, evils work their own remedy. The storm purifies the atmosphere; violent disturbances in the functions of animal life, not unfrequently, by throwing out of the system the elements of mischief which had been gathering, lead to renovated health. And should such be the termination of the present disastrous commotions, it will be worth all the struggles and difficulties through which the Church of England is now passing. The best result that we can hope for is, that they may hasten on the period of her emancipation, when, delivered from the incubus of state patronage, freed from the bondage of state control, and thrown on her own resources, she may have power to rid herself, not only of her Romanising priests, who are undermining her doctrines, but also of her ambitious and worldly-minded ministers, who degrade her character and destroy her usefulness. When she may have full liberty to amend her constitution, revise her liturgy, and enforce her discipline; then, retaining as many bishops as she pleased, and adopting what forms she thought most for her edification, other Christian communities, no longer oppressed or insulted by her, would cheerfully extend the right hand of fellowship, and hail her as a welcome and powerful ally in the diffusion of truth and righteousness throughout the world."

"The Channel Islands," "The Wandering Jew," "The Philosophy of Christian Morals," and "The Maynooth Endowment bill," are the subjects of other articles. It is delightful to see the heart and soul with which this able journal throws itself into the great and existing controversies of the times. We trust that the editor's project of reducing the price will meet with sufficient encouragement to make it the property of the many, as it is now their organ.

There are two parts before us of a new work called "The Illustrated Family Journal." We do not pretend to have had time to form a judgment of its merits. Each part is done up in a gay cover—contains eighty pages—has abundance of pictures—with writing of all kinds, prose and poetry—matter, moral, scientific, entertaining stories, anecdotes, reflections—things new and old—for ninepence.

"The Methodist New Connexion Magazine" is one that well deserves encouragement, especially of the body to which it more particularly belongs. It maintains, of course, its own principles of theology and church polity—and does it fairly,

and without offence. On general questions, its tone is healthy and honest. We regard it as a worthy coadjutor in the great cause of civil and religious liberty.

"Douglas Jerrold's Shilling Magazine" sustains its character. It is our deliberate judgment that it is one of the best periodicals that are published. Perhaps it carries its prevailing idea rather too far—but reformers have been seldom free from extravagance. Poor "St Giles" has his sentence of death commuted into one of transportation. "How Will it Look?" makes society look very queer. "Novel Blowers" get well blown up. "Cathedral Pennies" are made good change for "certain thirty pieces of silver." "Impressions of a Late Trial for Murder," are deep and dreadful. "A Proposal for a National System of Scientific Dueling" is exceedingly rich. "The Temptations of the Poor" are well sketched and sympathised with. "The Hedgehog Letters" give some bristles about the Maynooth bill, all of which we don't like. This, however, is good:—

"Now, according to my opinion, the folks who abuse Maynooth ought rather to feel glad that more money is to be given to her priests, seeing what an abundance of money, and good things purchased by money, have done for the Irish Protestant Church. It has become slow as it has become fat. Stuff even a pulpit cushion with bank notes, and it is strange to see how religion will sleep upon it. And, therefore, people ought to rejoice that the Catholic priest is to be made a little comfortable in worldly matters! Excellent, worthy churchmen, who can command the sports of the field and all the pleasures of the table, are not the busy, troublesome folks to go about converting their benighted neighbours! And though the Maynooth pupils may not—like their beneficed rivals—keep fox-hounds, and enjoy the dearest turtle, pine apples, and all that, they will not, I think, be in after life more dangerous to the Protestant church, because, when at college, they slept not more than two in a bed."

The editor of "Cruikshank's Table Book" presents us with a dream about "the Demon of 1845," which is illustrated by a capital picture of the great George's, portraying the progress and results of railway speculation. We don't see much in "The Stage Assassin." "The Mesmeric Dinner" has wit. "Leaves from a New Edition of Lemprière" supplies the following notice of—

"Archimedes, a celebrated mathematician of Syracuse, and original inventor of the invisible shell; the advantage of his invention over that of Captain Warner consisting in the fact that Archimedes really did what the Captain only talked about. When the town was taken, orders were given to save the philosopher, but a soldier killed him by mistake; and Marcellus raised a cylinder, which is something like a pea-shooter, to his memory. Archimedes used to boast that he had an apparatus for moving the earth, which, by the bye, he might have done, to a certain extent, with an ordinary shovel. He said that all he required was a purchase, but no one seemed disposed to become the purchaser. There is a screw called by his name, which would seem to imply that he either dealt in doubtful horses, or was of a somewhat stingy character."

"The Illuminated Magazine" comes out in a new and surprising form this month. Instead of a great and awkward sort of pamphlet, it is a nice little, almost square, book of 242 pages, with a real cover of scarlet colour, having a gilt title and device. Without professing to be prophets, we dare hazard an opinion that this new form of periodical will become common in course of time. It has such manifest advantages—is so superior to look at, to hold, and to keep—that the wonder is, no one thought of it before. We cannot specify, much less describe, the contents of this number, but advise our readers to get it.

"The Congregational Magazine" contains a pithy and pointed paper, by Mr Robert Philip, on "The New Battle of the Reformation;" an interesting account of the "Religious State of the Jews in Poland, Silesia, and other parts of Europe;" much anecdotal information, under the title of "Memorable Days in May;" a practical paper, by Mr J. K. Foster, on the "Temptation of Christ;" a continuation of D'Aubigné's "Lutheranism and Calvinism;" with reviews of "Halley on the Sacraments," Mrs Ellis's "Look to the End," "Memoirs of the Rev. John Elias," and various kinds and portions of other matter.

"The Herald of Peace" has two features of great worth and excellence this month. One is a report of a lecture on "Popular Objections to the Peace Principle," by Mr H. Richard. His remarks on self-defence are given at length, and well merit consideration. The other is a report of a lecture, by John Scoble, Esq., on the "Duty of Christians to Promote Peace, and the Claims of Arbitration."

"The Modern Orator" contains the second part of Sheridan's thrilling speeches. We trust that this cheap and useful reprint has met with sufficient encouragement to secure its continuation.

Press of matter obliges us to omit the notice of many periodicals, which we hope next month to have an opportunity of meeting with again.

The Parent of Every Nation's Wealth proved by Philosophy to be couched within her Soil, and only to be obtained by the Impulse given by Law to the Cultivators of that Soil. By W. H. SCOTT, the well-known Writer against the Factions of the Age. Stamford: Bellerby and Son. pp. 24.

HAD we not been requested by one of our subscribers

to give a few words of criticism upon the pamphlet with the above pompous title, we should not have taken the trouble to peruse it. When such a miserable driveler as the author has the assurance to style himself by implication a philosopher, and imagine his bombastic ravings the fruit of clear, legitimate inquiry, we are almost inclined to think that the keeper of some asylum has lost a patient from some of his wards, and has not advertised him, simply to avoid damaging the character of his establishment. The author, from his own account, is a well-known writer against the "factions of the age," and doubtless thinks himself triumphant in his attempts at annihilating them. Still the League and radicalism exist. "The factions of the Leaguers," he says in his philosophic preface, "proceed from a party of selfish manufacturers, who, finding some parts of the protecting and prohibiting laws unsuitable to their personal aggrandisement, begin to make a great clamour against the injustice of such laws. At length they hire some dissembling spouting tools to go about the country, and impose on the credulity of the illiterate and undesigned part of the community," &c.—p. 5.

The whole of this philosophic pamphlet is carried forward in the same convincing manner. In the second section or chapter, entitled "The Philosophy of the Earth," he calls the Leaguers—"Wretched sceptics, calling themselves corn-law repealers," "Pitiable beings in human shape," &c.

In chapter iii. he proceeds to enlighten us with his profound views on "the laws of primogeniture and birth-right," which in a few syllables he traces down from the Jewish patriarchs. These laws, often in their operations so deeply oppressive, he declares to be the true cause of all national greatness and prosperity, and quotes some saying of Napoleon to prove it; after which he triumphantly exclaims—"Does not this, then, give strength to the nation and stability and splendour to the crown?" Further on he declares, with the utmost apparent solemnity, though with questionable sincerity:—"The nobles of the land have a pride in performing the duties incumbent upon them, and in behaving kindly and honourably to all beneath them."—p. 15. And concludes the chapter in the following heroic style:—

"Let the large occupier be once annihilated, the splendid ox and sheep of superior breed and quality would speedily disappear from among us, as would also the beautiful blood horse. The fact is, so long as England maintains these foundation stones in security, the superstructure, with all its magnificence, will stand the test of ages."

The next chapter is devoted to the corn laws; and, in connexion with this subject, Mr Scott appears in all his unshorn majesty. Like a giant with an iron mace, he threatens destruction to the League. Indeed, we wonder how Messrs Cobden, Bright, and Co., can exist after the well-known Mr Scott has issued his fiat against them. He says:—

"There is a philosophy in everything, but the losing sight of that leaves the mind in profound obscurity, which, I am sorry to see, is at this time the case with the Anti-corn-law Leaguers. But, in all their unprincipled doings, I never heard of their setting the Thames on fire."—pp. 16 and 17.

After having overwhelmed the Leaguers in confusion and smoke, he next proceeds to apply his philosophy to a consideration of "the fallacy of fixed duties;" and, after expending two pages of froth upon the subject, he ends his profound treatise upon the wealth of nations with a farcical chapter against vote by ballot. What, then, can we say in conclusion? After inflicting so much caustic upon our readers, we must acknowledge, we were inclined to think all a joke or satire upon the landlords. But, when we looked once more at the title-page, and learnt that our agricultural philosopher could be found at Morecott, Rutland, our dreams were ended. He must be a real man—a living personification of humanity. We would, however, recommend him, if possible, to obtain a patent for superfecundity in the creation of mud.

The Mission of the Church: or, Remarks on the Relative Importance of Home and Foreign Missionary Effort in the Present State of the World. By PETER RYLANDS. pp. 30. Ward, London.

THIS is a tract that well deserves reading, on a subject that loudly claims consideration. The author is a bold man to attempt to sail so directly against the stream; but yet, we must think, that such a mode of attacking prevailing notions, if it did not succeed in their destruction, would, if well and wisely followed up, soon place them on better defined grounds, and secure for them a wiser expression. Mr P. Rylands is one of a class of young men who are by no means prepared to take things for granted, to receive the traditions of the fathers, or to suppose that all is heresy that is so-called. They are "Young Dissent;" and if they do not alter many things, they will force their investigation. One of the subjects most needing their attention is that of missions, and one of the most important topics connected with that subject is the one treated by our author. To those who know him it is unnecessary to say, that his pamphlet is marked by a manliness of sense, a directness of argument, and a happy mixture of philosophy with fact, which are in admirable keeping with the character and importance of his theme. We shall express no opinion on his doctrine, but earnestly invite attention to it. The book is but the first of many, unless we mistake the signs of the times, and it constitutes a good beginning. The following sentences will explain the principles advocated:—

"Were the inhabitants of our own and other civilised nations converted to the truth, or were due provision made for that great object, we should then rejoice in efforts abroad. It is not that we think Raratonga or Tahiti not worth the expenditure of time, talent, money, and life, devoted to them, but that we are firmly convinced the same expenditure was more needed, and would have been more successful elsewhere. Could every inhabitant of the world be at once embraced by Christian effort, it would be a glorious thing; but, as that is not yet possible, it becomes us to employ our limited resources with the greatest care and judgment. Let no one, however, withdraw from foreign operations any support that he is not prepared to devote, with new ardour, to the conversion of his countrymen."—p. 26.

It will be seen from this extract that the author is no enemy of foreign missions. On the contrary, he is an advocate of the exclusive claim, for the present, of home missions, with a view to the speedier conversion of the

world. He believes that nothing is gained by a diffusion of effort over a large surface—that it is necessary to concentrate our energies in order to secure the greater usefulness—that more than the amount of good which has resulted from foreign labours would have resulted from them if expended on our own country—and that any degree of usefulness here would be, on many accounts, far more important than the same degree among uncivilised or half-civilised nations. These points deserve examination; and the greatest obstacle in the way of its being given will arise, we are persuaded, from an unreasoning love of the vast in object, apart from all considerations of what is possible in fact, and a wicked preference of the distant to the near. When will Christians wipe away the reproach, that their charity is most vigorous where it can be least claimed, and can do least good?

LIST OF PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED.

1. *Debates on the Dissenters' Chapels Bill.*
2. *A Plan of an Improved Income Tax.* By JAMES S. BUCKINGHAM.
3. *The Modern Orator.* No. 4.
4. *Payne's Universum.* Nos 14, 15, 16.
5. *Mephistopheles and the Young Divine.* A Fragment.
6. *A Lecture on Christian Theism.* By JOHN SHEPPARD.
7. *The Call to the People of God to come out of Babylon.* By WILLIAM JONES, M.A.
8. *Protestant Christianity contrasted with Romanism.* By W. B. SPRAGUE, D.D.
9. *The Life of Jean Paul Richter.* 2 Vols.
10. *The Life of the Rev. J. Blanco White.* 3 Vols.
11. *The Union of True Christians possible, desirable, and necessary.* By a CLERGYMAN.
12. *Lectures on Baptism.* By W. SHIRREFF.
13. *Education the Birthright of every Human Being.* By the Rev. B. PARSONS.
14. *The Present Truth.* By SAMUEL BOWEN.
15. *Christian Philosophy; or Materials for Thought.*
16. *Our Era, a Soliloquy.* By W. LEASK.
17. *Lectures to the Working Classes.* Part 5. By W. J. FOX.
18. *Howitt's History of Priestcraft.*
19. *The Dissenter's Plea for his Nonconformity.* By W. JONES, M.A.
20. *The Beggar's Coin.* By J. R. BESTE, Esq.
21. *Common Sense and the Rights of Conscience Vindicated.* By ANDREW SCOTT.
22. *The Character and Influence of Satan.* By J. H. WILSON.
23. *The Congregational Tune Book.* Part 1.
24. *Dawn Island.* A Tale. By HARRIET MARTINEAU.

EARLY RISING.—There is no time spent so stupidly as that which inconsiderate people pass in a morning between sleeping and waking. He who is awake may be at work or at play; he who is asleep is receiving the refreshment necessary to fit him for action; but the hours spent in dosing and slumbering are wasted, without either pleasure or profit. The sooner you leave your bed, the more seldom you will be confined to it. When old people have been examined, in order to ascertain the cause of their longevity, they have uniformly agreed in one thing only, that they "all went to bed and rose early."—*The Circulator.*

IMPORTANT, IF TRUE.—In the window of a hair-dresser's shop in the Strand is the following announcement:—"Wigs made so naturally as to escape detection." We understand that Lord John Russell has recommended the establishment to Sir Robert Peel, who, if he can be made a whig so naturally as to escape detection, may join the liberals without being found out—a condition that is always *ficheuse* to a minister.—*Punch.*

NOVEL PLAN OF A VIADUCT.—A portion of the evidence given this week, in a railway committee, describes one of the most novel and bold engineering projects which this age of mechanical wonders has produced. To secure a rapid communication with Ireland, it is felt to be extremely desirable to continue the North Wales railway across the Menai straits to Holyhead. The existing suspension bridge is too weak to bear the railway trains, and the erection of a stone bridge is deemed impracticable. In these circumstances they propose to extend an iron tube or gallery across that arm of the sea, which, from the top of the one bank to that of the other, is 900 feet broad. There is a rock in the middle of the water which divides the space into two. The tube will, therefore, be in two lengths of 450 feet, built like an iron ship of strong plates fastened by rivets, and perhaps strengthened by longitudinal ribs of iron. Its section is to be twenty-five feet by fifteen—that is, as we understand it, twenty-five in height, and fifteen in width. One line of rails, we suppose, will pass along the bottom, on which the locomotive and train will travel, and small openings will, of course, be made on the top to admit light. Though the length of each tube (450 feet) will be at least equal to the breadth of St Andrew square, they seem to think that it will maintain a nearly horizontal position by its rigidity, at a height above the water sufficient to allow masted ships to pass, and this, too, while it is loaded with a railway train, weighing sixty or eighty tons. Such a conclusion, though sanctioned by Colonel Pasley, seems to us very questionable. Perhaps they intend to make the tube in the form of an arch, with a level road way on the top to support the rail.—*Scotsman.*

Religious Intelligence.

RELIGIOUS TRACT SOCIETY.—The following is an abstract of the Report which was read at the annual meeting of the above society, by Mr Jones, corresponding secretary and superintendent:—It briefly noticed the operations of the Society in China, Siam, Burmah, Australia, New Zealand, the Georgian Society, and Navigators' islands, Africa, Spanish America, West Indies, the United States of America,

British North America, France, Switzerland, Belgium, the Netherlands, Spain, Italy, Hungary, Bavaria, Lower Saxony, Austrian Silesia, Norway, Sweden, Russia, the Mediterranean, and adjacent countries. In detailing the home proceedings, reference was made to the opening of the new depository, and the interesting fact that the whole of the heavy and necessary charge has been met without appropriating to the object any portion whatever of the free subscriptions, donations, or contributions given to the Society for its gratuitous operation. It then alluded to the efforts of the Society for the benefit of Scotland and Ireland, and specially on behalf of Wales. The grants made for various important objects in Great Britain, amounted to 1,749,432 publications, of the value of £2,402 15s. 8d., voted to district visiting, city and town missions, Christian instruction, loan tracts, and kindred institutions; also for Sabbath-day circulation, soldiers, sailors, rivermen, British emigrants, prisoners, hospitals, workhouses, railway workmen, fairs, races, foreigners in England, and miscellaneous. The libraries granted, on reduced terms, for destitute districts, Sunday and day schools, union houses, and factories, amounted to 360, of the value of £749 17s. 10d., exclusive of twenty-one missionary family libraries sent to foreign lands. The number of libraries granted since 1832, for Great Britain and Ireland, is 3,268, of the total value of £9,838. One hundred and eighty-two new tracts and books were published during the year; and the publications issued from the depository were 15,380,322; making a total circulation, in about ninety-six different languages, including the issues of foreign societies assisted by the parent institution, amount to nearly 396,000,000. The total benevolent income of the year was £6,355 4s. 6d., including special contributions for China and the building fund. The gratuitous issues were of the value of £6,669 7s. 4d., being £709 11s. 7d. beyond the amount of the contributions. The legacies received have been £815. Total receipts, £54,104 14s. 3d. The report concluded by advertising to the special duties which the times call upon the friends of evangelical truth zealously and perseveringly to discharge—the circulation of those works which clearly maintain the great doctrine of justification by faith, the sufficiency of the holy scriptures in all matters of doctrine and practice, the right of private judgment, and the supreme authority of our Lord Jesus Christ in his church.

FRENCH MISSIONS IN CHINA.—We have received letters from Macao, containing intelligence which, if it be confirmed, will produce a sensation in Europe, and do great honour to the French mission in China. It is nothing less than the abolition of the rigorous edicts which forbid the Chinese to embrace and practise Christianity. We know that these edicts, after having been revoked under the reign of the Emperor Kan-Hi, were again brought into force about a century ago, on the advice of the tribunal of Rites; and, until these latter times, at least, have been put into execution by the Chinese magistrates with the utmost rigour. Thus Christianity has found a double obstacle to its introduction into the middle empire; for on one hand were the laws which interdicted foreigners from penetrating into the interior of the empire, and on the other hand the Chinese, who, if left to themselves, would be inclined to embrace the religion of the gospel, are restrained by the pains and penalties denounced by the edicts. It is these edicts which it is now in contemplation to abolish. To obtain this abolition the French mission, as may be well believed, could not make any direct propositions to the Chinese commissioners. It was only by influential means that it ought or could act. Thus the first overtures came from the Chinese negotiators themselves, from Ki Ying, the representative of the Emperor, and from the treasurer, Hu Ad. Ki Ying has a liberal and philosophical mind. Far from having any prejudice or antipathy against Christianity he repeats, both in personal conference and in his written correspondence, that a religion which forbids evil and commands good cannot be a false one. He adds, that as this religion is professed by the great Emperor of the French, and by the noble nation of which he is the sovereign, the abolition of the laws which forbid its exercise in China would be the best means of confirming a friendly alliance between the two countries. In a word, he offered his mediation with the Emperor and the tribunal of Rites to obtain a revocation of the anti-Christian edicts. To us alone will belong the honour of having represented Christianity and civilisation in China, by causing edicts of intolerance and persecution to be abolished. Though others may have opened China to commerce, we shall have opened her to Christianity and tolerance! —*Journal des Débats.*

MARRIAGES.

April 28, at the Baptist chapel, Braunstone, Northamptonshire, by Mr D. Rowe, Joseph West to Sarah Chambers. Also, at the same time and place, John Liddington to Elizabeth Turl, both of Drayton, in the parish of Daventry. May 2, at Stockwell new chapel, Mr Isaac Ashford, of Cambridge, to Mary Pratt Bright, eldest daughter of Mr J. D. Bright, of Saxmundham. May 5, at Reading, by Mr W. Legge, minister, Mr Frederick Smith Adams, of Newbury, to Amelia Letitia, youngest daughter of the late Mr Richard Shaw, timber merchant, of the same place. May 6, at the Independent chapel, Carr's lane, Birmingham, by the pastor, Mr J. A. James, Mr H. J. Heathcote, Independent minister, of Coleraine, Ireland, to Mary Ann Kay, youngest daughter of Mr John Kay, of Birmingham. May 6, by Dr Halley, at Rushmore Road chapel, Manchester, Mr John Curwen, Independent minister, of Plaistow, to Mary, second daughter of Joseph Thompson, Esq., of Chorlton place. May 8, at the Independent chapel, Howden-on-Tyne, Mr John Walsh, of Newcastle, to Miss Hodgson, of Howdon. May 8, at the Countess of Huntingdon's chapel, Worcester, by Mr G. R. Hewlings, Mr Edwin J. Hartland, minister of the Independent chapel, Chatteris, Cambridgeshire, to Anne Corben, daughter of Mr Robert Hulls, of Worcester.

May 9, at Westminster chapel, by Dr Jenkyn, of Coward college, Mr David Morgan, minister, of Llanfyllin, Montgomeryshire, to Miss Elizabeth Jones, of Machynlleth, in the same county. The marriage was solemnised in the Welsh language.

May 10, at the Independent chapel, Kingswood, Wilts, by Mr B. O. Bendall, minister of the place, Mr William Nichols, Independent minister, of Langport, Somersetshire, to Mary, eldest daughter of the late Mr James Counsell, clothier, Kingswood, Wilts.

DEATHS.

May 3, at Bradford, Yorkshire, after a long illness, Mr Joseph Watson, aged 50.

May 4, of consumption, Charlotte, the eldest and beloved daughter of Mr and Mrs John Kent, of Laurie terrace, St George's road, Southwark, in the 23rd year of her age.

May 4, at his residence, 6, Southport place, Bath, in the full assurance of faith in Jesus, Mr Richard Harris, aged 72, the senior deacon of the Baptist church, Somerset street, Bath, and father of Mr John Harris, of Ashbourne, Derbyshire.

May 8, at Long Crenon, Bucks, Mr William Hopcroft, the pastor of the Baptist church in the above place, where he preached the gospel for thirty-nine years.

Trade and Commerce.

LONDON GAZETTE.

Friday, May 9.

The following building is certified as a place duly registered for solemnising marriages, pursuant to an act of 6 and 7 Will. IV., cap. 85:—
Providence chapel, New Walsoken, Norfolk.

BANKRUPTS.

Baldwin, Edmund, and Garrett, Richard, Henfield, Sussex, linen drapers, May 16, June 11: solicitors, Messrs Hill and Mathews, St Mary axe.

Cooke, Thomas, Leicester, glove manufacturer, May 20, June 13: solicitors, Mr T. S. James, Birmingham, and Messrs R. and G. Toller, Leicester.

Gee, George Walker, and Gee, John Fearn, Leeds, and Horsforth, Yorkshire, drapers, June 2, 30: solicitors, Messrs Sale and Worthington, Manchester, and Messrs Reed and Shaw, Friday street, London.

Harrison, William, Woodhouse Carr, Yorkshire, pattern dyer, May 21, June 9: solicitors, Mr Charles Naylor, or Mr Charles Tempest, Leeds, and Messrs Sudlow and Co., 20, Chancery lane, London.

Jones, John, Aberystwith, Cardiganshire, innkeeper, May 23, June 20: solicitor, Mr C. G. Heaven, Bristol.

McDougal, James, Leicester, draper, May 22, June 24: solicitors, Mr W. H. Hoskins, Loughborough, and Mr T. S. James, Birmingham.

Mears, John, Leeds, grocer, May 21, June 9: solicitors, Mr H. S. Sanderson, Leeds, and Mr Rushworth, Staple inn, London.

Newton, Jacob, Newton, John Ward, and Newton, Francis Jacob, Rotherham, Yorkshire, spirit merchants, May 20, June 12: solicitors, Mr Joseph Badger, Rotherham, and Mr John Blackburn, Leeds.

Parker, Henry, Loughborough, Leicestershire, plumber, May 27, June 13: solicitors, Mr William Brown, Nottingham, and Messrs Harrison and Smith, Birmingham.

Piper, Thomas Foot, Cheapside, and Bishopsgate street Without, City; Thomas place, North street, Whitechapel, and Landport, Hampshire, wholesale stay manufacturer, May 20, June 18: solicitor, Mr Cox, Pinner's hall, Broad street.

Rudman, George, Bristol, mason, May 23, June 23: solicitors, Mr F. Short, Bristol, and Messrs White and Co., Bedford row, London.

SCOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS.

Arres, James, Stirling, farmer, May 17, June 7.
McLean, Charles, Glasgow, calico printer, May 15, June 19.
Roy, Charles Macpherson, Banff, merchant, May 17, June 7.
Sutherland, R. W., Glasgow, bookseller, May 16, June 6.
Tate, William, Dundee, baker, May 14, June 4.
Webster, Alexander, jun., Kierriemuir, grocer, May 14, June 4.

DIVIDENDS.

C. Evans, Manchester, banker, second and final div. of 6d and 1-20th part of a penny, May 22, 27, and any subsequent Tuesday.—J. Nicks, Warwick, carpenter; final div. of 1s. 5d., and a first div. of 2s. 6d. on new profits, any Tuesday.—T. Pretty, Bilston, Staffordshire, grocer; first div. of 4s., any Tuesday.—E. Sheppard, sen., and E. Sheppard, jun., Uley, Gloucestershire, clothiers; final div. of 3d., any Monday.—J. Crisp, Liverpool, and Liscard, Cheshire, auctioneer; div. of 6d., any Wednesday.

Tuesday, May 13.

The following buildings are certified as places duly registered for solemnising marriages, pursuant to an act of 6 and 7 Will. IV., cap. 85:—
The Independent and the Baptist chapels, Newtown, Montgomeryshire.

Baptist chapel, Sible Hedingham, Essex.

Norfolk street chapel, Sheffield, Yorkshire.

Penceae chapel, Llanarth, Cardiganshire.

BANKRUPTS.

Betts, Joseph Young, Cardiff, Glamorganshire, grocer, May 27, June 24: solicitor, Mr Leonard, Bristol.

Brain, John, 16, Winchester place, Pentonville, copper plate dealer, May 20, June 18: solicitors, Messrs Lawrence and Plews, 32, Bucklersbury.

Buckle, John Brooks, Kidderminster, mercer, May 23, June 24: solicitors, Messrs Boycott and Lucy, Kidderminster; Mr W. H. Reece, Birmingham.

Davies, William, Liverpool, milk seller, May 20, June 17: solicitors, Messrs Slater and Heelis, Manchester; and Mr M. J. Hore, Liverpool.

Ellis, John Walker, 15, Laurence lane, Cheapside, cloth merchant, May 22, June 24: solicitors, Messrs James and Edwards, Ely place, Holborn; and Messrs Battye and Clay, Huddersfield.

Furnival, John, Kettering, Northamptonshire, corn dealer, May 23, June 21: solicitors, Messrs Cardales and Hille, 2, Bedford row; and Mr W. Gattard, Kettering.

Malpas, Henry, Bath, victualer, May 30, June 23: solicitors, Mr Richard Raven, Temple, London; and Mr Joseph Drewe, Bath.

Seager, Thomas, Hammersmith, Middlesex, leather cutter, May 23, June 20: solicitor, Mr Hepburn, Copthall buildings, Throgmorton street.

Simpson, John, late of Maryport, but now of Talentire, Cumberland, shipowner, May 27, June 2: solicitors, Messrs Taylor and Collinson, Great James street, London; and Mr G. W. Cram, Newcastle-upon-Tyne.

Sturley, Mark, Southam, Warwickshire, organ builder, June 2, July 2: solicitors, Mr Weller, King's road, London; Mr Pell, Northampton; and Mr Thomas R. T. Hodgson, Birmingham.

Webb, William Henry, Stratford-upon-Avon, Warwickshire, wharfinger, May 27, June 24: solicitors, Messrs Hobbes and Slater, Stratford-upon-Avon; and Messrs Harrison and Smith, Birmingham.

SCOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS.

Alldridge, Thomas, and Co., Edinburgh, paper stainers, May 19, June 16.

Cook, John, North Leith, spirit merchant, May 20, June 10.

Ramsay, Alexander, sen., Kershill, Stirlingshire, May 21, June 11.

Sutherland, James, Edinburgh, bookseller, May 19, June 9.

DIVIDENDS.

G. Potter, S. Potter, and J. Krauss, Manchester, calico printers, first div. of 2s. 6d., May 21, and any subsequent Wednesday.—T. Cartwright, Heaton Norris, banker, first div. of 6d., any Wednesday.—T. Creeke, Cambridge, tailor, sec. div. of 11d., any Wednesday.—J. F. Barwick, Old street, St Luke's, wheelwright, first div. of 4s. 1d., any Wednesday.—R. Greenwood, Bradford, bookseller, first div. of 4s., after May 12.—W. Brooks, New street square, Fetter lane, lamp manufacturer, fourth div. of 4d., May 17, and two following Saturdays.—G. Sharp, Liverpool, grocer, div. of 2s. 6d., any Wednesday.—H.

Williams, Newborough, Anglesey, shopkeeper, div. of 8d., any Wednesday.—B. B. Owen, and B. G. Owen, Pall mall, tailors, first div. of 8s., M y 14, and two following Wednesdays.—J. Ayling, Leeds, cabinet maker, first div. of 8s., May 14, and two following Wednesdays.

BRITISH FUNDS.

The market is tolerably firm, and a larger amount of business doing, at slightly advanced prices.

	Wed.	Thur.	Fri.	Sat.	Mon.	Tues.
3 per cent. Consols	98½	98½	98½	98½	99	99
Ditto for Account	99	99	98½	98½	99½	99½
3 per cent. Reduced	97½	97½	97½	97½	97½	97½
New 3½ per cent.	100½	100½	100½	100½	100½	100½
Long Annuities	11½	11½	11½	11½	11½	11½
Bank Stock	210	210	210	209½	209½	209½
India Stock	277	278	278	278	278	278
Exchequer Bills	56pm	56pm	56pm	56pm	57pm	57pm
India Bonds	70pm	—	68pm	69pm	68pm	69pm

FOREIGN FUNDS.

Austrian	—	Mexican	38
Belgian	99	Peruvian	31
Brazilian	88	Portuguese 5 per cent	—
Buenos Ayres	42	Ditto converted	66½
Columbian	15½	Russian	118
Danish	88	Spanish Active	41½
Dutch 2½ per cent	63	Ditto Passive	7
Ditto 4 per cent	97½	Ditto Deferred	18

RAILWAY SHARES.

Birmingham and Derby	—	London & Birm. ½ Shares	33
Birmingham & Gloucester	135	London and Brighton	63
Blackwall	9	London & Croydon Trunk	18½
Bristol and Exeter	94	London and Greenwich	11
Cheltenham & Gt. Western	—	Ditto New	25
Eastern Counties	20	Manchester and Leeds	143
Edinburgh and Glasgow	65	Midland Counties	155
Grand Junction	—	Ditto New Shares	18
Great North of England	188	Midland and Derby	115
Great Western	185	Ditto New	—
Ditto Half	105	South Eastern and Dover	40
Ditto Fifths	42	South Western	78
London and Birmingham	236	Ditto New	14½

MARKETS.

MARK LANE, MONDAY, May 12.

The market has been liberally supplied with English wheat since this day week; fine dry samples sold readily this morning at last Monday's prices, but the inferior sorts met a dull sale. Old foreign wheat firm in price, but the transactions limited.

Arrivals of foreign barley continue large, but moderate of English; in consequence this article was bought on rather lower terms than this day week.

In beans and peas no alteration.

The arrivals of foreign, Irish, and Scotch oats make together a large supply since this day week, and they are 6d. per quarter cheaper than last Monday, particularly oats at all warm or out of condition.

Wheat, Red	40 to 46	Malt, Ordinary	46 to 50
Fine	46 to 50	Pale	52 to 60
White	42 to 50	Rye	30 to 34
Fine	50 to 55	Peas, Hog	34 to 36
Flour, per sack	32 to 42	Maple	33 to 38
Barley	23 to 28	Boilers	32 to 36
Malt, new	30 to 34	Beans, Ticks	32 to 36

Beans, Pigeon	35 to 40	Wheat	40s. 0d.
Harrow	33 to 37	Barley	7 0
Oats, Feed	20 to 22	Oats	6 0
Fine	22 to 24	Rye	10 6
Poland	22 to 24	Beans	7 6
Potato	22 to 24	Peas	7 6

Wheat	46s. 0d.	Wheat	46s. 1d.
Barley	31 2	Barley	31 11
Oats	21 4	Oats	21 2
Rye	29 9	Rye	30 4
Beans	36 1	Beans	35 4
Peas	36 10	Peas	35 11

SEEDS.

The operations to-day were of so trifling a nature that quotations must be considered as having remained nominally unaltered.

Linseed	per qr	Clover	per cwt.
English, sowing	52s. to 58s.	English, red	45s. to 55
Baltic, ditto	—	Ditto, white	60 to 68
Ditto, crushing	40 to 45	Flemish, pale	—
Me it. & Odessa	40 to 44	Ditto, fine	—
Hempseed, small	35 to 38	New Hamb., red	40 to 48
Large	—	Ditto, fine	50 to —
Canary, new	47 to 48	Old Hamb., red	—
Extra	51 to —	Ditto, fine	—
Caraway, old	44 to 46	French, red	40 to 50
New	48 to 50	Ditto, white	50 to 75
Ryegrass, English	—	Coriander	12 to 18
Scotch	—	Old	—
Mustard	per bushel	Rapeseed, 24l. to 26l. per last.	—
Brown, new	8 to 12	English, new	23l. to 25l.
White	12 to 14	Linseed cakes	—
Trefoil	17 to 24	English	11l. 0s. to 12l.
Old	—	Foreign	7l. 0s. to 8l.
Tares, new	6s. 6d. to 7s. 6d.	Rapeseed cakes	— to —

PROVISIONS, LONDON, May 12.

In new Irish butter there is as yet very little doing; a few Corks have arrived, and sold at 90s. for thirds, and 84s. for fourths. There are still some speculative sellers for forward delivery at about 80s., free on board, for Corks and Limericks. The supplies of foreign continue large. Prices of best Dutch 90s. per cwt. We have no particular change to notice in bacon; the market still remains in an inactive state: the consumption, however, appears to be very good, and holders generally seem confident that higher rates will be obtained as the season advances. Hams in good demand at improving prices. Lard remains firm without alteration in price.

HOPS, BOROUGH, Monday, May 12.

The advance of the season now invests with more interest the accounts from the plantations, although it may be some time yet before they can be of a nature seriously to influence the market; which, up to the present time, evinces little animation.

POTATOES, BOROUGH, Monday, May 12.

The supply to this market far exceeds the demand, and sales are limited even for the best fresh samples; all stale or inferior lots have been stored, or sold to the cowkeepers at ruinous prices.

York Reds	40 to 70	Kent & Essex Whites	40 to 45
Perth do.	30 to 40	Wishbone Kidneys	40 to 50
Early Devon do.	40 to 46	Do. Whites	40 to 45
Cornwall do.	— to —	Guernsey Blues	— to 50
Jersey Blues	— to 50	Prince Regents	50 to 60

BUTCHER'S MEAT, SMITHFIELD, Monday, May 12.

The attendance of buyers being tolerably numerous, the beef trade was steady, though not to say brisk, and last week's quotations were supported in every instance. The number of foreign beasts here to-day was 40, the whole of which found buyers, at prices varying from 18l. to 19l. each. With sheep we were scantily supplied for the time of year; hence the mutton trade was steady, and a clearance was effected without difficulty. The lamb trade was exceedingly dull, at a decline on last

week's quotations of from 4d. to 6d. per 8lbs. Calves, the supply of which was moderate, sold heavily, on somewhat easier terms. The pork trade was rather inactive.

Price per stone of 8lbs. (sinking the offal).
Beef 2s. 8d. to 4s. 2d. | Veal 3s. 6d. to 4s. 8d.
Mutton 3 4 .. 4 10 | Pork 2 0 .. 4 0
Lamb, 4s. 10d. to 5s. 10d.

HEAD OF CATTLE AT SMITHFIELD.
Beasts. Sheep. Calves. Pigs.
Friday 941 11,930 307 298
Monday 2,705 20,620 72 315

NEWGATE and LEADENHALL MARKETS, Monday, May 12.

Per 8lbs. by the carcase.
Inferior Beef 2s. 6d. to 2s. 8d. | Inf. Mutton 3s. 4d. to 3s. 8d.
Middling do 2 10 .. 3 0 | Mid. ditto 3 10 .. 4 4
Prime large 2 2 .. 3 4 | Prime ditto 4 6 .. 4 8
Prime small 3 4 .. 3 6 | Veal 3 10 .. 4 10
Large Pork 3 0 .. 3 6 | Small Pork 3 8 .. 4 0
Lamb, 5s. 0d. to 6s. 2d.

WOOL.

There is no new feature to notice in this branch of trade this week. About an average amount of business has been done, and prices continue very firm. The imports continue to be on a large scale, and were last week 3085 bales, of which 1269 were from Sydney, 1125 from Van Diemen's Land, 181 from Spain, 271 from Germany, 132 from Belgium, and the rest from the Cape of Good Hope, Turkey, Buenos Ayres, &c. The public sales will be brought on next Tuesday, and owing to the recent large addition to stocks on hand, it is probable that there will be more submitted to public competition than was at first supposed.

COTTON.

Considerable excitement has prevailed during the week, so far as regards the extent of business. The sales have been from 10,000 to 12,000 bags a day; prices much the same, and in a few instances a trifle lower. The steam-ship Great Western arrived on Thursday night. Her accounts inform us that the receipts at the ports of the United States have been 56,000 bales more than at a similar period of 1843, the great crop year. 28,500 American and 500 Surats were taken on speculation, and 1,780 American and 200 Pernambuco for export.

HAY, SMITHFIELD, May 10.—At per load of 36 trusses.

Coarse Meadow .. 70s. to 90s. | New Clover Hay .. 90s. to 120s.
New ditto | Old ditto
Useful Old ditto .. 92 .. 100 | Oat Straw 38 .. 40
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COAL EXCHANGE, May 12.

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GROCERIES, TUESDAY, MAY 13.

TEA.—The deliveries amount to 495,000 lbs. in the last week. The market is firm. Common Congou is selling at 9d. to 9½d., and Twankay at 1s. 2d. to 1s. 3d. per lb.

The public sales of colonial produce will recommence tomorrow.

Advertisements.

WANTED an ASSISTANT in the General Ironmongery. He must have a thorough knowledge of the business, so as to take the principal Management. A Member of a Christian Church, who has some knowledge of the grocery trade, or who will be willing to assist in that department will be preferred; and it is hoped would find it an eligible situation. Apply, pre-paid, to A. Z., Post office, Burton-upon-Trent.

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The Committee beg most respectfully to appeal to the benevolence of the Public on behalf of the above Institution; and, in a few words, to epitomise its advantages.

1. It receives the Sons and Orphans of Ministers of the Gospel, whose means are circumscribed, without any sectarian preference or exclusion.

2. There being no charge for the rent and taxes of Dumpton hall, through the kindness of an individual, and several Gentlemen having undertaken to work its interests gratuitously, all contributions and subscriptions are directly available to the Society, without any drawback.

3. The Establishment is located in one of the most healthy parts of England, and within a quarter of a mile of the sea.

The Committee further state their hope that Thirty Children will be elected in June next, and all who have previously subscribed will be entitled to vote. A Donation of Ten Guinea constitutes a Life Governor; and subscriptions of a Guinea a year, less or more, will be thankfully received.

At the present, assistance is specially needed for school furniture; and remittances, by Post Office Order or otherwise, should be forwarded to the Treasurer, or to the Rev. Mortlock Daniell, Hon. Sec., Southwood villa, Ramsgate.

N.B. The Committee hope to save the considerable expense of travelling agency, through the prompt benevolence of the Public, to whose judgment and charity they commend the Institution.

DUMPTON HALL, RAMSGATE.—The Committee beg to state that no proposals for admission can be entertained for the first Election after the 18th of this month.

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MR. SUFFELL, No. 17, Brunswick parade, Islington, is authorised to receive SUBSCRIPTIONS towards LIQUIDATING the DEBT remaining on this Place of Worship, the particulars of which have already appeared more than once in this journal. JOHN RADFORD.
Winchmore hill, 12th May, 1845.

GRAVESEND.—NEW BAPTIST CHAPEL.

SERVICES in connexion with the Formation of a Church of Christ in the above place of worship, and the appointment of Pastor and Deacons, will be held there next Sabbath.

Dr GODWIN, of Oxford, has kindly engaged to conduct the proceedings.

To commence at a quarter before Eleven in the Morning, at Three in the Afternoon, and at half-past Six in the Evening.

METROPOLITAN COMPLETE SUFFRAGE ASSOCIATION

THE COMMITTEE beg to announce, that a

TEA PARTY and SOIREE will be held at the CROWN and ANCHOR Tavern, STRAND, on WEDNESDAY next, the 21st of MAY. W. S. CRAWFORD, Esq., M.P., in the Chair.

The following gentlemen have already signified their intention of being present—Colonel Thompson; Rev. T. Spencer, of Bath; L. Heyworth, Esq., of Liverpool; Henry Vincent; Dr Epps; Dr Price; Mr E. Miall; Rev. R. S. Bayley, founder of the People's college, Sheffield; and Rev. G. Dawson (Birmingham), &c.

Tickets, 2s. 6d. each, may be had of Mr ELT, High street, Islington; Mr THOMAS, High street, Kingsland; Mr POCOCK, Meadow street, Stoke Newington; Mr CRELLIN, 198, St George's street East; Mr DAWES, 251, Blackfriars road; HART's Hotel, Aldersgate street; the Nonconformist office, Crane court, Fleet street; the Crown and Anchor Tavern, Strand; and the Hon. Secretary, 48, Lower Baker street, Lloyd square.

* * Communications to be addressed to the Honorary Secretary, Mr Cockshaw, Hart's Hotel, Aldersgate street.

MAYNOUTH ENDOWMENT BILL.

RESOLUTIONS passed at a PUBLIC MEETING of the Protestant Dissenters of Islington, held in Islington Chapel, on Monday Evening, May 5—

E. BROOKES, Esq., in the Chair.

Proposed by the Rev. B. S. HOLLIS; seconded by DAVID M'LAREN, Esq.:

1. That during the last few years events have occurred which have made it increasingly evident that the support of Christian churches by the state is both unnecessary and unjust, and that it is attended by great embarrassments, and by many evils both civil and religious.

Moved by the Rev. Dr MATHESON; seconded by the Rev. A. J. MORRIS; supported by the Rev. T. JAMES:

2. That the conduct of the House of Commons, in hastily sanctioning a bill for the endowment of Maynooth college, in opposition to the sentiments of the great majority of the nation, as expressed by petitions almost unparalleled in number, is inconsistent with its character as a representative institution.

Proposed by the Rev. C. GILBERT; seconded by the Rev. J. BLACKBURN:

3. That the endowment of the college of Maynooth involves the principle of the endowment of the whole Catholic priesthood, and is likely to lead to that result; and that such a change in the policy of this country ought to be resisted by all the means which the constitution of the country allows.

Proposed by the Rev. J. H. GODWIN; seconded by the Rev. H. ALLON:

4. That a petition to the House of Lords, praying it to reject the bill, be adopted by this meeting, and signed on its behalf by the chairman, to be presented in the event of the bill being passed by the Commons; and further that, if the bill should pass the Lords, a memorial be presented to the Queen.

CONFERENCE OF PROTESTANT DISSENTERS ON THE MAYNOUTH GRANT.

9th of APRIL, 1845.

AT A MEETING of the Committee of the

DEPUTIES of the Three Denominations of Protestant Dissenters—Presbyterian, Independent, and Baptist, in and within twelve miles of London—appointed to protect their Civil Rights—

J. R. MILLS, Esq., in the chair—

It was resolved—

"That this Committee, having had laid before them a copy of a circular signed by F. A. Cox, R. S. Bailey, J. P. Mursell, and W. Forster, as the Secretaries of a Committee calling a Convention of Evangelical Protestant Dissenters, to be held in London on the 20th inst, hereby express their approval of the objects of such Convention, and beg to recommend to all Congregations of Protestant Dissenters in and within twelve miles of London, to cause themselves to be represented in such Convention, to assist in rendering the most efficient opposition to the Maynooth Endowment bill."

HULL TERRELL, Secretary.

CONFERENCE OF THE PROTESTANT DISSENTERS ON THE MAYNOUTH GRANT.

THIS CONFERENCE will be held on

TUESDAY, the 20th instant, in CROSBY HALL, BISHOPSGATE STREET, at Ten o'clock, a.m. Ministers and Delegates of Congregations and Public Meetings may obtain tickets of admission on application to the Secretaries, at the King's Head, in the Poultry, or at the opening of the Conference in Crosby hall. It is desirable that early notice of the appointments of Delegates should be given.

F. A. COX, D.D.
R. S. BAILEY.
J. P. MURSELL.
W. FORSTER.

King's Head Tavern, Poultry, May 10, 1845.

SOUTHWARK and LAMBETH DISSENTING ANTI-MAYNOUTH COMMITTEE.

AT A MEETING of the above Committee,

held MAY 7th, at LION-STREET SCHOOL ROOM, WALWORTH.

JOHN BROWN, Esq., in the Chair,

It was resolved unanimously:—

That, in the event of the Maynooth Bill passing the House of Commons, an Aggregate Meeting of those in this District who oppose the measure on the principles which have been published as the basis of the opposition conducted by this Committee, shall be convened forthwith, at some convenient place, for the purpose of forwarding such opposition in the House of Lords, and, if needful, before the Throne. This Committee further resolve to recommend that petitions to the Lords against the Bill be prepared throughout the district; and when the final votes on the Bill of Members of the two Boroughs shall have been made public, this Committee will take steps to obtain, at the said aggregate Meeting, a full expression of the opinions on those votes which the Meeting may entertain.

JOHN BROWN, Chairman.

SAMUEL GREEN, Secretaries.

DANIEL PRATT, Secretaries.

CONFERENCE OF PROTESTANT DISSENTERS ON THE MAYNOUTH GRANT.

CONGREGATIONS or Public Meetings in the CONVENTION, but to whom it may be inconvenient to send Delegates to London, may nominate Gentlemen resident in or near the Metropolis; or they may authorise the Committee, through the Secretaries, to appoint Representatives for them.

The Opponents of the Maynooth Grant are also reminded that, although the Third Reading of the Bill is fixed for the 19th inst, yet, as the Debate on it will occupy several nights, time will be given for the adoption of Measures by the Convention which may influence the Votes of Members of the House of Commons.

F. A. COX,
J. P. MURSELL, Secretaries.
R. S. BAILEY,
W. FORSTER.

King's Head, Poultry, May 10.

LONDON MISSIONARY SOCIETY.

THE following is the Arrangement of the SERVICES at the FIFTY-FIRST GENERAL MEETING of the LONDON MISSIONARY SOCIETY:—
THIS EVENING—TABERNACLE—Rev. THOMAS ARCHER, D.D., to preach. Service to commence at Six o'clock.

THURSDAY, MAY 15.

MORNING—The PUBLIC MEETING will be held at EXETER HALL. The Chair to be taken precisely at Ten o'clock, by WILLIAM HUNTER, Esq., Alderman and Sheriff.
EVENING—An Adjourned Meeting will be held in FINSBURY CHAPEL, Blomfield street. The Chair to be taken at Six o'clock, by Sir CULLING EARDLEY SMITH, Bart., Treasurer.

LORD'S DAY, MAY 18.

Sermons will be preached, and collections made, at various places of worship in London and its vicinity, as follows:—
Aldermanbury chapel—Morning, Rev. JOHN DAVIES; Afternoon, Rev. W. HOWE, M.S.
Abney chapel, Stoke Newington—Morning, Rev. T. SMITH, A.M.; Evening, Rev. J. P. DORSON.
Barbican chapel—Morning, Rev. A. TIDMAN; Evening, Rev. G. SMITH.
Barking—Morning, Rev. JOHN VINE, M.S.; Evening, Rev. JOHN VINE.

Bethnal green—Morning, Rev. J. VINEY; Evening, Rev. W. C. MILNE, M.S.
Bishopsgate chapel—Morning, Rev. J. FROST; Evening, Rev. G. MUNDY.

Chadwell street chapel, Pentonville—Morning, Rev. G. R. BURGH; Evening, Rev. G. CHRISTIE.
Clapham—Morning, Rev. Dr BENNETT; Evening, Rev. J. REYNOLDS.

Clapton chapel—Morning, Rev. A. WELLS; Evening, Rev. Dr BENNETT.
Clarendon chapel—Morning, Rev. J. BLACKBURN; Evening, Rev. R. C. MATTHEW.

Collier's rents chapel, Borough—Morning, Rev. JAMES HILL.
Coverdale chapel, Limehouse—Morning, Rev. H. S. SEABORN; Evening, Rev. G. R. B. RECH.
Craven chapel—Morning, Rev. JOHN ELY; Evening, Rev. G. CLAYTON.

Croydon—Morning, Rev. Dr JENKYN; Evening, Rev. Dr JENKYN.
Enfield—Morning, Rev. J. C. HARRISON; Evening, Rev. J. C. HARRISON.

Enfield Highway—Morning, Rev. T. FIELDING; Evening, Rev. T. FIELDING.
Esher street—Morning, Rev. E. STALLYBRASS; Evening, Rev. C. GILBERT.

Falcon square chapel—Morning, Rev. E. DAVIES, M.S.; Evening, Rev. JAMES HILL.
Fetter lane chapel—Morning, Rev. CALER MORRIS; Evening, Rev. E. DAVIES, M.S.

Finchley—Morning, Rev. W. H. DREW; Evening, Rev. W. H. DREW.
Finsbury chapel—Morning, Rev. A. FLETCHER; Evening, Rev. A. FLETCHER.

Greenwich, Maze hill—Morning, Rev. J. P. DORSON; Evening, Rev. H. S. SEABORN.
Greenwich, Tabernacle—Morning, Rev. D. E. FORD; Evening, Rev. E. MANNERING.

Hackney, St. Thomas's square—Morning, Rev. Dr CODMAN; Evening, Rev. J. FROST.
Hackney, Well street chapel—Morning, Rev. J. CARLILE; Evening, Rev. J. CARLILE.

Hammersmith, George yard—Morning, Rev. G. CHRISTIE; Evening, Rev. H. E. JELLA.
Hammersmith, Ebenezer chapel—Morning, Rev. G. MUNDY; Evening, Rev. THOMAS JAMES.

Hare court chapel—Rev. T. W. AVELING; Evening, Rev. W. S. PALMER.
Holloway—Morning, Rev. A. J. MORRIS; Evening, Rev. A. J. MORRIS.

Holywell Mount chapel—Morning, Rev. E. MANNERING; Evening, Rev. JOHN ELY.
Horsleydown, Union chapel—Morning, Rev. ARCHIBALD JACK; Evening, Rev. D. E. FORD.

Hoxton Academy chapel—Evening, Rev. J. RAVEN.
Islington chapel—Morning, Rev. B. S. HOLLIS; Evening, Rev. J. GLANVILLE.

Islington, Lower street—Morning, Rev. J. YOCKNEY; Evening, Rev. Dr ALLIOTT.
Islington, Union chapel—Morning, Rev. Dr ALLIOTT; Afternoon, Rev. Jos. MOORE, M.S.; Evening, Rev. HENRY ALLEN.

Islington, Barnsbury chapel—Morning, Rev. C. GILBERT; Evening, Rev. J. ROBINSON.
Kensington—Morning, Rev. J. H. BUDDEN; Evening, Rev. P. THOMSON.

Kingsland Chapel—Morning, Rev. T. G. STAMMER; Evening, Rev. B. S. HOLLIS.
Lewisham—Morning, Rev. J. JEFFERSON; Evening, Rev. J. JEFFERSON.

Mabery Chapel—Morning, Rev. J. REYNOLDS; Evening, Rev. J. BLACKBURN.
Marlbore' Chapel—Morning, Rev. Jos. MOORE, M.S.; Evening, Rev. T. G. STAMMER.

Mill End, Latimer Chapel—Morning, Rev. R. SAUNDERS; Evening, Rev. R. SAUNDERS.
Mill End, New town—Morning, Rev. W. TYLER; Evening, Rev. E. STALLYBRASS.

Norwood—Morning, Rev. H. ADDISCOTT; Evening, Rev. H. ADDISCOTT.
Orange street chapel—Morning, Rev. J. GLANVILLE; Evening, Rev. THOMAS STRATES.

Pavement chapel, New North road—Morning, Rev. J. STEVENS; Evening, Rev. H. TOWNLEY.
Pimlico, Buckingham chapel—Morning, Rev. E. A. DUNN; Afternoon, Rev. W. CAMPBELL; Evening, Rev. W. CAMPBELL.

Plaistow—Morning, Rev. E. PROUT; Evening, Rev. E. PROUT.
Poplar—Morning, Rev. G. SMITH; Evening, Rev. A. TIDMAN.

Poultry chapel—Morning, Rev. J. CLAYTON; Evening, Rev. J. CLAYTON.
Putney chapel—Morning, Rev. W. C. MILNE, M.S.; Evening, Rev. R. ASHTON.

Robert street chapel—Morning, Rev. J. D. LORRAINE; Evening, Rev. ARCHIBALD JACK.
Spa-fields chapel—Morning, Rev. A. REED, JUN.; Evening, Rev. A. REED, JUN.

Tabernacle—Morning, Rev. P. THOMSON; Evening, Rev. J. D. LORRAINE.
Tottenham Court road—Morning, Rev. THOS. STRATES; Evening, Rev. S. THOBURN.

Tottenham chapel—Rev. S. A. DAVIES; Evening, Rev. S. A. DAVIES.
Union street chapel—Morning, Rev. J. LYON; Evening, Rev. J. W. RICHARDSON.

Walthamstow—Morning, Rev. J. J. FREEMAN; Evening, Rev. J. J. FREEMAN.
Walworth, York street chapel—Morning, Rev. G. CLAYTON; Evening, Rev. W. HOWE, M.S.

Weigh-house chapel—Morning, Rev. S. THOBURN; Evening, Rev. A. WELLS.
Well street chapel—Morning, Rev. J. ARNOLD; Evening, Rev. T. SMITH, A.M.

Whitfield chapel—Morning, Rev. C. BRAKE; Evening, Rev. C. BRAKE.
Wardour chapel—Morning, Rev. J. ROBINSON; Evening, Rev. T. W. AVELING.

MONDAY, MAY 19.

A Meeting of the Directors of the Society, both town and country, will be held at the Mission-house, Blomfield street, Finsbury, chair to be taken at Eleven o'clock in the forenoon.

EVENING—The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper will be administered at the following places of worship to those Members and Friends of the Society who are stated Communicants, and who produce tickets from their respective Ministers, viz:—
Sion chapel—Rev. JOHN HARRIS, D.D., to preside.
Craven chapel—Rev. JAMES BENNETT, D.D., to preside.

Falcon square chapel—Rev. JOHN REYNOLDS, Romsy, to preside.
Surrey chapel—Rev. JAMES HILL, to preside.
Clarendon chapel—Rev. GEORGE SMITH, to preside.

St Thomas's square, Hackney—Rev. ANDREW REED, D.D., to preside.

Stockwell chapel—Rev. CALEB MORRIS to preside.
 Mabery chapel—Rev. HENRY TOWNLEY to preside.
 Tottenham Court road chapel—Rev. JOHN ELY, Leeds, to preside.

Handover chapel, Peckham—Rev. JOHN BURNET to preside.
 Trevor chapel, Chelsea—Rev. JOHN ANGELL JAMES to preside.

Service to begin at Six o'clock.
 A Collection for the benefit of the Institution will be made at each of the places.
 ARTHUR TIDMAN, } Secretaries.
 J. J. FREEMAN, }
 JOHN ARNOLD, }
 Mission House, Blomfield street, Finsbury, May 10th, 1845.

BRITISH AND FOREIGN ANTI-SLAVERY SOCIETY, FOR THE ABOLITION OF SLAVERY AND THE SLAVE TRADE THROUGHOUT THE WORLD.

THE ANNUAL MEETING of this Society will take place in the HALL OF COMMERCE, Threadneedle street, on SATURDAY, the 17th of May, 1845.

JOSEPH JOHN GURNEY, Esq., in the Chair.
 The Chair will be taken at Twelve o'clock precisely. Admission by Tickets only, which may be had at the Society's office, 27, New Broad street; THOMAS WARD and Co., 27, Paternoster row; HATCHARD and Co., 187, Piccadilly; JAMES NISBET and Co., Berners street; JOSEPH STERRY and Son, 156, High street, Borough; and CHARLES GILPIN, Bishopsgate Street Without.

LONDON PEACE SOCIETY.

THE TWENTY-NINTH ANNUAL MEETING of the SOCIETY for the PROMOTION of PERMANENT and UNIVERSAL PEACE will be held in FINSBURY CHAPEL, MOORFIELDS, on TUESDAY, MAY 20th, 1845. CHARLES HINDLEY, Esq., M.P., President of the Society, has engaged to take the Chair, at SIX o'clock.

COLONIAL MISSIONARY SOCIETY.

THE NINTH ANNUAL MEETING of the COLONIAL MISSIONARY SOCIETY will be held in the WIGH-HOUSE CHAPEL, Fish Street hill, on Friday Evening, the 16th of May. Chair to be taken at Six o'clock precisely, by J. R. MILLS, Esq., Treasurer of the Society.
 ALGERNON WELLS.

ORPHAN WORKING SCHOOL, City road: instituted 1758.—Special Subscriptions for the New Building about to be erected at Haverstock hill, Hampstead road, for the reception of 210 children.

The Orphan Working School was established in the year 1758, and was opened for the reception of 20 poor orphan or destitute boys. The efforts of a few benevolent individuals soon enabled the Committee to admit 20 girls also.

A gradual increase has taken place in this number, until it has reached at the present time 121, the full number being now 70 boys and 51 girls. The average annual admissions for the last three years have been 26 children from all parts of the country. 1,205 children have been received since its commencement, most of whom, after receiving a religious, moral, and suitable education, have been placed in situations in which they have, by industry and good conduct, obtained a comfortable livelihood, and some of them have risen to influential stations in society, and become Governors of the charity.

The present building will not admit of enlargement without depriving the children of the means of healthful recreation; and the altered and new confined situation of the School would render that necessary on many accounts, undesirable. After mature consideration, the Governors determined to erect a new building. For this purpose, they purchased an eligible piece of land, about three miles from the City, on an elevated spot at Haverstock hill, Hampstead road. The subscriptions now solicited will determine the number of children who can be admitted as soon as the building is finished.

Every ten guineas given or collected, constitute a Life Governor, provided the money is entered in one name only. All may do something. To the Christian portion of the public, above all, is the appeal made. "Has-much as ye have done it unto one of the least of these, my brethren, ye have done it unto Me."

On behalf of the Committee,
 London, May 10, 1845. JOSEPH SOUL, Secretary.

George Byng, Esq., M.P. £105 0 0
 Henry Waymouth, Esq. 100 0 0
 John R. Mills, Esq. 100 0 0

Subscriptions already advertised £2,129 1 8
 W. Edgar, Esq. £21 0 0 Miss M. Roberts £10 10 0
 Mrs. Edgar 10 10 0 Miss M. A. Roberts 10 10 0

Roger Cudde, Esq. 10 10 0 Miss F. Roberts 10 10 0
 A. Friend, per ditto 5 5 0 Miss E. Roberts 10 10 0
 W. Morris, Esq. 2 2 0 Mr T. J. Weston 5 5 0

Mrs Thackwell 10 10 0 E. Thompson, Esq. 1 1 0
 A. Morley, Esq. 10 10 0 Miss Powell 1 1 0
 Collected by— Miss West 5 5 0

B. J. Butterworth, Esq. 5 5 0 R. H. Solly, Esq. 5 5 0
 Miss Laing 10 10 0 John Stone, Esq. 31 10 0
 Mrs C. A. Benthall 5 5 0 Robert Cottle, Esq. 1 1 0

Mr Snellgrove, jun. 10 10 0 Mrs Young 1 1 0
 Miss E. Clark 5 5 0 W. Underhill, Esq. 5 5 0
 Miss Padlock 5 5 0 Henry Spicer, Esq. 10 10 0

Miss Gregory 5 5 0 W. R. Spicer, Esq. 10 10 0
 Miss E. Gregory 5 5 0 James Spicer, Esq. 10 10 0
 Master J. S. Soul 5 5 0 Rev. G. Verrell 5 5 0

Mrs Stratten 7 0 0 Mr E. Smith (add.) 2 10 0
 Miss M. A. Cripps 5 5 0 Mrs John N. Foster 5 5 0
 Collected at Wood-bridge chapel, Clerkenwell 15 15 0

W. Collins, Esq. 10 10 0 P. Wright, Esq. 5 5 0
 J. Paynter, Esq. 10 10 0 Mr F. Fitch 10 10 0
 Mr Ebenezer Herne 10 10 0 Miss Price 10 10 0

W. H. Steele, Esq. 12 12 0 Mrs Ann Laundry 10 10 0
 Mrs Medway 10 10 0 John Brown, Esq. 10 10 0
 Mr T. Chapman 10 10 0 Mrs Graham 21 0 0

Miss Watson 5 5 0 Mrs Weatherhead 10 10 0
 P. B. Hall, Esq. 5 5 0 W. Reddome, Esq. 10 10 0
 G. H. Head, Esq. 10 10 0 and Friends 20 0 0

H. Bellingbrooke, Esq. 10 10 0 Mrs Powell add. 5 5 0
 R. Moreland, Esq. 5 5 0 Mr John Gillham 1 1 0
 Mr J. Hickson 5 5 0 Mrs W. C. Vennings 5 5 0

Hon. Miss Harley 10 10 0 John Mugnie, Esq. 10 10 0
 George Knox, Esq. 10 10 0 J. J. Hubbard, Esq. 10 10 0
 Miss F. Sanworth 5 5 0 John J. Smith, Esq. 10 10 0

Mrs Davies, Esq. add. 3 3 0 W. G. Gibson, Esq. 5 5 0
 Miss Roberts 10 10 0 John Meller, Esq. 2 2 0

The next election will take place in November. Candidates are received from all parts of the kingdom, provided they are in good health, are between seven and eleven years of age, and have neither been in prison nor a workhouse. Printed forms of petition may be had, and all particulars known, by applying to the Secretary, at the school.

Subscriptions and donations will be received at the London Joint-stock Bank, Princes' street; Messrs Coutts and Co., Strand; Barclay, Bevan, and Co., Lombard street; Jones Loyd and Co., Lombury; Messers. Mather and Co., Nicholas Lane; Overend, Gurney, and Co., Lombard street; Hankey and Co., Fenchurch street; Williams, Deacon, and Co., Lincoln Lane; Peacock and Co., Fleet street; Rogers, Olding, Sharpe, and Co., Fleet street; the London and Westminster bank, Lombury, and all its branches; Messrs Nisbet and Co., Berners street, Oxford street, Oxford street; Jackson and Walford, St. Paul's church-yard; Mr Charles Gilpin, bookseller, Bishopsgate street; by Mr Joseph Soul, the Secretary, at the School, City road, to whom all communications are respectfully requested to be addressed; and Mr James Harrison, the Collector, 21, Doris street, Kensington cross.

* Collecting books and cards are prepared, which the Secretary will be happy to furnish.

DISEASES OF THE CHEST, &c.

DR MELHUISS may be consulted by patients suffering from all functional and structural DISEASES of the HEART, LUNGS, STOMACH, and DIGESTIVE ORGANS, daily, at his house, 60, York road, Lambeth.

N.B. Dr M. continues giving advice gratuitously to the labouring classes on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday mornings, until eleven o'clock.

COMPOSITIONS for WRITING with Steel

Pens.—STEPHENS'S Writing Fluids. These Compositions, which have so remarkably extended the use of the Steel Pen, are brought to very great perfection, being more easy to write with, more durable, and in every respect preferable to the ordinary ink. In warm climates they have become essential. They consist of—
 A Blue Fluid, changing into an intense black colour.
 A Patent Unchangeable Blue Fluid, remaining a deep blue colour.

A superior Black Ink, of the common character, but more fluid.
 A brilliant Carmine Red, for contrast writing.
 A Carbonaceous Record Ink, which writes instantly black, and, being proof against chemical agents, is most valuable in the prevention of frauds.

Also, a ruling and mechanical drawing Liquid Ink, for Engineers, Draughtsmen, and Designers, ready for immediate use; it will be found superior to the best Indian ink for the above purposes; and a new kind of Marking Ink for linen, and Ink-holders adapted for preserving ink from evaporation and dust.

Persons inquiring for the Blue Fluids should be particular to use the terms "Unchangeable Blue Fluid," or "Blue Black," whichever they may require.

Prepared by HENRY STEPHENS, the inventor, 54, Stamford street, Blackfriars road, London; and sold in general by Stationers and Booksellers. The Unchangeable Blue Fluids are Patent articles; the Public are, therefore, cautioned against imitations, which are infringements, to sell or use which is illegal.

Stephens's Select Steel Pens. The utmost possible care having been bestowed upon the manufacture of these articles, so as to procure the highest finish, they can be confidently recommended, both for flexibility and durability.

SHIRT AND STOCK MANUFACTORY—HOSIERY, GLOVE, AND UNDER CLOTHING DEPOT.

38 & 40, Lamb's Conduit street, Five Doors from the Foundling Hospital.

S. SLANEY and CO. respectfully announce to Gentlemen and Ladies visiting Town, and the Public generally, that they have a most superior Stock of the above Goods, and the Prices are such as cannot fail to meet general approbation. One trial is solicited.

EASE in WALKING and COMFORT to the

FEET.—Welling street, Strand, London.—HALL and Co., SOLE PATENTERS of the PAXUS CORIUM, or Leather Cloth Boots and Shoes for Ladies and Gentlemen.—These articles have borne the test and received the approbation of all who have worn them. Such as are troubled with Corns, Bunions, Gout, Chilblains, or tenderness of Feet from any other cause, will find them the softest and most comfortable ever invented—they never draw the feet or get hard, are very durable, and adapted for every climate; they resemble the finest leather, and are cleaned with common blacking.

The Patent India Rubber Goggles are light, durable, elastic, and waterproof; they thoroughly protect the feet from damp or cold.

Hall and Co.'s Portable Waterproof Dresses for Ladies and Gentlemen. This desirable article claims the attention of all who are exposed to the wet. Ladies' Cardinal Cloaks, with Hoods, 18s. Gentlemen's Dresses, comprising Coat, Overalls, and Hood, 21s. The whole can be carried with convenience in the pocket.

N.B.—Hall and Co. particularly invite attention to their Elastic Boots, which are much approved; they supersede lacing or buttoning; are drawn on in an instant, and are a great support to the ankle.

ELECTRO-SILVERED DEANEAN PLATE.

—This beautiful manufacture possesses advantages which no other description of plated goods can offer. The union of the silver with it, being perfect, they constitute together but one body; and the silvery whiteness of the Deanean Plate renders the disappearance of the electric coating, after long use, and constant use, scarcely observable. G. and J. Deane have completed a very choice collection of Electro-Silvered Deanean Articles, comprising table and dessert spoons and forks, tea and gravy spoons, soup and sauce ladles, table and chamber candlesticks, sets of cruet and liqueur, tea and coffee sets, and every other description of goods ordinarily manufactured in silver.—George and John Deane's warehouse, show rooms, and manufacturing, 45, King William street, London bridge.

METCALFE'S NEW PATTERN TOOTH

BRUSH, and SMYRNA SPONGES.—The Tooth Brush has the important advantage of searching thoroughly into the divisions of the teeth, and cleaning them in the most effectual and extraordinary manner, and is famous for the hairs not coming loose. An improved Clothes Brush, that cleans in a third part of the usual time, and incapable of injuring the finest nap. Peniculating Hair Brushes, with the durable unbleached Russian Bristles, which do not soften like common hair. Flesh Brushes of improved graduated and powerful friction. Velvet Brushes, which act in the most surprising and successful manner. The Smyrna Sponge, with its preserved valuable properties of absorption, vitality, and durability, by means of direct importations, dispensing with all intermediate parties' profits and destructive bleaching, and securing the luxury of a genuine Smyrna sponge. Only at METCALFE'S sole Establishment, 130 B. Oxford street, one door from Holles street. Caution.—Beware of the words, "From Metcalfe's," adopted by some houses.

NEW ENVELOPE.

IN Consequence of the great variety of Counterfeits of Envelopes of ROWLAND'S KALYDOR, and other disreputable means resorted to by unprincipled individuals for imposing on the Public their highly pernicious compounds, under the title of "KALYDOR," the Proprietors and sole Preparers of the Original and genuine Preparation, acting under a sense of duty, and regardless of expense in the attainment of their object—the protection of the Public from fraud and imposition—have employed those celebrated artists, Messrs Perkins, Bacon, and Co., who have succeeded, at great cost, in producing from a steel plate a NEW ENVELOPE of exquisite beauty. It comprises a highly-finished Engraving of the *Grecian Graces* standing on a classic pedestal, on each side of which is a rich profusion of Flowers, springing from an elegant Cornucopia; these, tastefully blending with Arabesque Scrolls and Wreaths, encircle the Royal Arms of Great Britain, surmounting the words, "Rowland's Kalydor," &c., &c., &c., whilst a Plinth at the foot displays the Signature of the Proprietors, in Red, thus—
 A. ROWLAND & SON.

20, Tylton Garden, London, Jan. 1st, 1845.
 ROWLAND'S KALYDOR is an odoriferous, creamy Liquid—the only safe and efficacious preparation for dissipating Tan, Freckles, Pimples, Blisters, spots, and other Disfigurements of the Skin. The radiant bloom it imparts to the Cheek, and the softness and delicacy it induces on the Hands, Arms, and Neck, render it indispensable to every Toilet.—Price 4s. 6d. and 8s. 6d. per bottle.

* Sold by the Proprietors, and by Chemists and Perfumers.

Printed and published at the Office, at No. 4, Crane court, Fleet street, in the parish of St. Dunstan in the West, in the city of London, by JOHN HENRY DAVIS, of No. 76, York road, Lambeth, in the county of Surrey, on WEDNESDAY, 14th of MAY, 1845.